

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## NATIONAL DAY TO PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. We have much to celebrate as a country in respect to teen pregnancies and birth. Teen pregnancy, abortion and birth rates have all declined: the birth rate is down 31 percent from 1991–2002 and the teen pregnancy rate is down 28 percent from 1990–2000. While African American teens still have higher teen pregnancy rates than any other major racial/ethnic groups in the country, their rates are decreasing faster than the overall rates for teen pregnancy and birth in the United States. Between 1990 and 2000, the teen pregnancy rate among African American teens declined 31.5 percent.

There have been an exceptional number of organizations whose hard work and dedication through education and outreach services contributed to this decline. A few of those include our Community Health Center, the school health associations, the Ounce of Prevention Fund, and Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

Still, there is no room for complacency. Nearly half of our Nation's high school students have had sexual intercourse; the average age of first intercourse for boys and girls is 15 and almost 25 percent report having sex with four or more partners by 12th grade. 35 percent of girls still get pregnant by age 20 in this Nation—nearly 850,000 teen pregnancies annually. In Chicago alone, more than 7,500 babies are born to teen moms every year, 88 percent of which are out-of wedlock. The numbers of teens contracting sexually transmitted diseases are just as startling. Each year one-quarter of the estimated 12 million new cases of STD, other than HIV, in the United States occur among teenagers. Adolescents have one of the fastest increasing rates of HIV infection; an average of two young people are infected with HIV every hour of every day.

Abstinence education should be taught but not without more education explaining the risks of being sexually active. With the high percentage of adolescence having sexual intercourse and according to the Illinois Department of Public Health only 35 percent of males and females nationally use a condom during every act of sexual intercourse, we can not pretend or even wish that our young people are waiting to have sex. Education works—we have proof of that with the decline in teen pregnancies and births. We need to ensure that our young people are receiving a comprehensive sex education program to effectively teach and encourage teens to delay sexual activity. The Alan Guttmacher institute found that between 1988 and 1995, three-quarters of the decline in teen pregnancy was due to improved contraceptive use among

sexually active teenagers with one quarter of the decrease due to increased abstinence.

Mr. Speaker, teen pregnancy is so closely linked to other critical social issues: child poverty, out of wedlock births, a well-trained and ready workforce, and a responsible fatherhood. Congress, communities, schools, parents, organizations and groups of faith should all join together in properly educating and demonstrating to our young people that adolescence is a time for education and growing up, not pregnancy and parenthood.

## HONORING THE HISPANIC ORGANIZATION OF STUDENTS IN TECHNOLOGY/SOCIETY OF HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AT NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hispanic Organization of Students in Technology (HOST), the student chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). They were honored at the HOST/SHPE Gala Banquet on Thursday, April 29, 2004, at Ibero Restaurant in Newark, New Jersey. This year's gala banquet featured New Jersey State Assemblyman Wilfredo Caraballo as the keynote speaker, as well as NJIT President Robert Ailtenkirsch and Provost Joel Bloom.

The Hispanic Organization of Students in Technology/Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers represents a group of extremely talented and dedicated students who have shown amazing promise and success. Established in 1991, the objective of the HOST/SHPE was to create an organization to serve as a role model to the Hispanic community. Under the leadership of Student President Cynthia Camacho, HOST/SHPE has continued to excel as one of the premiere HOST organizations in the United States. With the second highest membership of a Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers student chapter nationwide, HOST/SHPE was the recipient of New Jersey Institute of Technology's Newark College of Engineering 2004 Outstanding Student Organization.

Cynthia Camacho has also been acknowledged for her outstanding leadership. At the SHPE Eastern Technical Career Conference in Washington, DC, she received the Pedro Ortiz Student Leadership Award. This award is presented to the student member who has displayed leadership qualities in activities within SHPE and their community. Ms. Camacho has served as a role model for her peers and youth, through her outstanding academic excellence and commitment to her community.

Carlomango Ontaneda, the SHPE chapter advisor at NJIT, has been an integral force in

helping students achieve their goals at NJIT and beyond. For his dedication and tireless effort, Mr. Ontaneda was awarded the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers National Technical Career Conference Educator of the Year Award.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the achievements of Cynthia Camacho, Mr. Ontaneda, and the talented students of the Hispanic Organization of Students in Technology/Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers at New Jersey Institute of Technology.

## TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT BILLY JOE ORTON

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, to die for one's country, while tragic, is the ultimate honor. To die for the freedom of others may not carry with it an adequate expression to illustrate the debt it generates. Today, I rise to honor Staff Sergeant Billy Joe Orton who was killed during his tour of duty in Taji, Iraq. He was 41 years old.

Staff Sergeant Orton dedicated his life to serving our Nation bravely. He served in Panama from November 1993 to November 1996; Egypt from October 2001 to August 2002, and was ordered to active duty for "Iraqi Freedom" on Oct. 12, 2003, with the 39th Infantry Brigade in Arkansas.

His dedication to his country was surpassed only by his love for his family, friends and community. The lives he touched were evident as more than 150 people recently gathered outside the Orton home where Staff Sergeant Orton lived with his wife, Margarita, and their three children. The crowd gathered carrying lit candles and a heavy heart as the community came together to share the grief with the Orton family.

Arkansans have always been proud of their tight-knit communities, but to see such an outpouring of support is proof of the magnetic personality Orton possessed.

Staff Sergeant Billy Orton fought honorably to establish freedom and democracy, and we are all struck by the enormity of this tragedy. We will remember Staff Sergeant Orton for his honor, his mettle and his bravery. On behalf of the Congress, I extend the utmost respect for a fine American, a loving father, husband and son, and the perfect model of a patriot.

## RECOGNIZING BRITTANY SANDERS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ms. Brittany Sanders of Kansas

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

City, Missouri. Ms. Sanders has been named one of the two top youth volunteers in Missouri for 2004 in the ninth annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. This is an extraordinary honor; more than 20,000 young people across the country were considered for recognition this year. The Prudential Spirit of Community Award was designed to emphasize the importance our Nation places on service to others, and to encourage young Americans of all backgrounds to contribute to their communities.

Brittany was nominated by St. Charles. Borromeo Parish School in Oakview, Missouri. As a seventh grader at St. Charles Borromeo Parish School, she organized a youth service club in honor of her best friend who died from brain cancer. Brittany began with small projects on her own, donating her birthday and Christmas gifts to sick children, cleaning up her block, collecting canned goods for a food pantry, and volunteering. "Kristin's Kids Club" has grown from 10 to 400 members, and has undertaken a wide range of community service projects.

Brittany developed a newsletter and Web site to support the club's activities, and is now spending a lot of time and effort starting similar groups in other cities and States. She has raised thousands of dollars for a variety of causes, such as the poor children of Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending this exemplary young lady for her dedication to community. Brittany is an outstanding role model and an exceptionally fine asset to the Sixth District of Missouri. I am proud of her and wish her well in any future endeavor she chooses.

#### TRIBUTE TO ELVIN R. CALDWELL, SR.

#### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the extraordinary life of a distinguished public servant, Elvin R. Caldwell, Sr. This remarkable gentleman merits both our recognition and esteem as his impressive record of civic leadership and invaluable service has moved our community forward and thereby, improved the lives of our people.

For Elvin Caldwell Sr., passion for social justice was not defined by the fanfare of public life. His passion was of lasting import. It was tempered by his calm bearing, firm resolve and a steady discipline which shaped civic accomplishments of immeasurable value to our community. Elvin Caldwell possessed the rare ability to transform the promise of equal justice and fair treatment into practicable reality and our lives have truly been enriched by his presence among us.

During his formative years in Denver, Caldwell knew both the racism and exclusion prevalent during the 1920's and 30's. At a young age, he participated in protest marches with his parents and the adversity he experienced forged a resolve and commitment to civil liberties that would sustain him through life's challenges. He recalled that "Denver was a very prejudiced city at one time . . . I used to watch my father—no matter how tired he

was—stand out there . . . [and] I realized that I had a debt to pay for what [he] fought to achieve." Elvin Caldwell Sr. made good on that commitment and built a legacy in which we take great pride.

He graduated from East High School in Denver and earned a track scholarship to the University of Colorado. Caldwell later married "Frankie" Harriett Webb and his marriage lasted for 60 years and produced four children. By 1950, he was a successful accountant and a member of the State legislature. He served three terms in the Colorado House of Representatives, but the barriers to passing progressive legislation proved to be considerable. In 1955, Caldwell chose to take on six primary opponents in a city council race and at the age of thirty-one, he became the first African American elected to the Denver City Council. He was elected council president five times and his tenure proved to be one that was defined by resourcefulness and statesmanship. Caldwell entered city government at a time when institutionalized discrimination was the norm. Qualified African American police officers couldn't climb through the ranks, there were no black judges, and the fire department was segregated—African Americans could only serve at one fire station. These deplorable conditions set in motion Caldwell's plan for change—to rid the civil service system of practices that either marginalized African American firefighters and police officers or excluded racial minorities from public service. City government needed to be opened up and Caldwell was up to the challenge.

Change did not come swiftly but the road to a more equitable society is never easy. He knew that change is unsettling and over the next decade, Caldwell's quiet persistence overcame obstacles and got things done. Even in the face of threats and militant confrontation by groups such as the Black Panthers, Caldwell remained courteous and unflappable. He once mused that "On life's journey, it's better if you can resolve things in a calm, sensible manner . . . It may take longer, but you can usually get more done."

Caldwell's leadership in city council created formal recruitment programs to bring more minorities into Denver's public safety departments and through his perseverance and skill, the State's first Fair Employment Practices Act was made law. He became a potent force in helping to revitalize the Five Points area and helped establish the Eastside Neighborhood Health Center as well as the Five Points Community Center.

His career on city council lasted twenty-five years and after seven terms, former Denver Mayor William McNichols appointed Caldwell Manager of Safety, making him the first African American to sit in a mayoral cabinet. He served on numerous community, State and national organizations including the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He is credited for opening doors for other African American leaders including former Mayor Wellington E. Webb and City Council President Elbra Wedgeworth. In 1990, the Denver City Council created the Elvin R. Caldwell Community Service Plaza and on April 26, 2003, the City and County of Denver named the Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library in recognition of his lifetime of service to our community.

Recently, his portrait was hung in the library to honor him as a modest and dignified public

servant who left a powerful legacy of social progress. Truly, we are all diminished by the passing of this remarkable gentleman. Please join me in paying tribute to Elvin R. Caldwell, Sr. His life was rich in consequence and his deeds serve as an inspiration to us all. The values, leadership and commitment he exhibited during his life set the mark and compel us to continue the work that distinguishes us as a nation.

#### HONORING THE POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS OHIO DIVISION

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Polish American Congress, Ohio Division, as they celebrate their 55th anniversary—sharing their cultural gifts along a parade route lined with food, song and joyous celebration.

On May 18, 1949, in Cleveland, Ohio, the Ohio Division of The Polish American Congress was founded. The Polish American Congress is composed of individuals of Polish ancestry as well as Polish organizations. The group serves as a unifying force for both Polish Americans and Polish citizens living in America. Taking a positive stand on issues concerning the people of Poland, the group strives to attain a free market economy within the framework of a democratic society.

The goal of The Polish American Congress is to make Americans of Polish heritage more successful U.S. citizens by encouraging them to assume the responsibilities of citizenship. In addition, the group supports fraternal, professional, religious, and civic associations dedicated to the improvement of the status of all Americans of Polish heritage.

It is evident that the Polish American Congress has played a crucial role in the Polish Community, and in its many years of service has been an invaluable contribution to the City of Cleveland and beyond.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of the leaders and members of the Polish American Congress, as they celebrate fifty-five years of promotion and guardianship of the heritage, history and culture of their beloved Polish homeland—providing awareness and connection to every new generation born in America, and enriching the diverse fabric of our entire Cleveland community.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF SESSER, IL

#### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like my colleagues to join me in honoring the centennial of one of the oldest communities in my congressional district, Sesser, Illinois.

Sesser's beginnings have a close relationship to the coal mining industry in southern Illinois. T. C. Keller came to Sesser from Indiana

and began sinking a large mine shaft 647 feet deep, one and one-half miles southeast of town. Because of the sinking of the Keller mine and the extension of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad into the rich coal fields of the region, Sesser was born. After it was discovered that a deep vein of coal lay under this area, the news traveled fast and people of many nationalities came to Sesser to work.

Two railroad officials, John C. Elliot and John Sesser, a surveyor from whom Sesser received its name, laid out the original plat which contained a square of sixteen blocks. This original plat ran from the railroad to the City Hall and two blocks north and two blocks south of Main Street (Franklin Ave). Sesser was later appointed by President Woodrow Wilson as a member of the Railway Labor Board in Washington D.C. in 1920. Later he served as a Vice-President of the Cuban Railway.

Homes and businesses sprang up fast. Most of the businesses were two story buildings with rooms above to handle the people coming to work in the mines in Sesser. In 1912, the Sesser City Board made contact with the Egyptian Light Company to furnish power and electric lights for the City. Sesser's first sidewalks were made from railroad ties with hitching racks along both sides of the street. In 1912, concrete sidewalks covered eight miles within Sesser.

Sesser's first high school began in 1919, the opera house, drug stores, hotel and restaurants were soon opened. Water and sewer systems were completed in 1914 and a dial system was installed in 1954. Sesser's City Hall was completed in 1967 and the Franklin County Housing Authority approved 30 rental units in Sesser in 1968. Two factories serviced the Sesser area, Sesser Concrete was built in 1946, making concrete blocks and other products and Lyn Gai Garment Company manufactured ladies apparel.

Sesser Sheltercare Home, a 60 bed health care facility, was opened in 1970. This facility is located on farm property previously owned by my mother and father-in-law, George and Eloise Cockrum. This facility was purchased and renamed Redwood Manor. Several rural county schools were in session at one time and now they are housed in one location.

Sesser today is a community of over 2000 and boasts hotels, restaurants and community churches. It remains a vital part of the economy of Franklin County and southern Illinois.

This year, Sesser celebrates its centennial and also commemorates the 49th year of the annual Sesser Homecoming, an event which draws people from throughout the region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the founding of the community and the people of the City of Sesser, Illinois on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary.

#### HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF REVEREND HARRY CRENSHAW

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, Jerusalem Baptist Church in Toledo, Ohio will bid a fond farewell to its revered patriarch, Reverend Harry

Crenshaw. With the coming of spring, Reverend Crenshaw retires as pastor of the church after a lifetime of service to his flock and that of the larger Toledo community. Truly a community leader, long recognized as the voice of the church, Reverend Crenshaw has been a mainstay of the Jerusalem congregation and its neighborhood for decades. He is a man for others.

"Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits at the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the Law of the Lord; and in His law does he meditate both day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of the water, that brings forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he does shall prosper." (Psalms, 1:1-3)

Within the words of this passage lies Reverend Dr. Harry Crenshaw. A man of God, he lives the Word in thought and deed, and has imparted his love of that Word to generations. Through his strength and wisdom he has provided counsel to thousands. The esteem with which he is held is testament to his prominent role in the lifeblood of the community and the personal lives of the people to whom he ministers.

While no one can build a church alone, Jerusalem Baptist Church and its ministry, the Jerusalem Outreach Center, are attributable to the passion and perseverance of Reverend Dr. Crenshaw. His guidance and leadership have been a primary force in the growth of the church and its neighborhood mission, particularly its embrace of our youth. He has come to embody faith and hope for the next generation of our community.

Reverend Dr. Crenshaw has earned his rest as he takes his leave from the day-to-day operations of the Jerusalem congregation. Yet, his abiding goodness lives strong in each of us whose lives he has touched. We know he will remain involved in its activities for the church and its works are a part of him. Reverend Dr. Harry Crenshaw's soul will echo on in the buildings' walls and the congregation's hearts for many years to come. He came this far by faith with his beautiful wife, Frances, and he led us all to a more humane and compassionate community and world.

#### THANKING OUR TEACHERS MAY 2- 8—TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

#### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Albert Einstein once said that "It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge". I rise today to thank our Nation's teachers for their exceptional work, compassion and dedication to our children everyday. Although May 4th was National Teacher's Day, this entire week, May 2-8 is Teacher Appreciation Week.

I think everyone can think back and remember that one teacher that touched their lives—whether it was the one that taught you to read, gave you the confidence to learn more, made you feel smart and knowledgeable or was the one solid, caring adult in a child's life. The origins of Teacher Day are not too de-

fined. Around 1944 Arkansas teacher Mattye Whyte Woodbridge began corresponding with political and education leaders about the need for a national day to honor teachers. Truly Woodbridge wrote to Eleanor Roosevelt who in 1953 persuaded the 81st Congress to proclaim a National Teacher Day. It wasn't until March 1985, when National Education Association (NEA) and the National PTA established Teacher Appreciation Week as the first full week of May with the first Tuesday remaining as National Teacher's Day.

Teachers are true heroes in our communities, who through their dedication to children work millions of small miracles every day. Henry Brooks Adams, a historian and grandson of President John Quincy Adams once said that "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." We must never forget to thank our teachers for their service to our society and for creating a better, smarter and hopefully kinder future generation.

#### HONORING JERSEY CITY HUDSON CITY LIONS CLUB

#### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Jersey City Hudson City Lions Club in celebration of its 50th anniversary. The Jersey City Hudson City Lions Club (JCHCLC) celebrated with a 50th Anniversary Ball held on Saturday, May 1, 2004, at Puccini's Restaurant in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Since 1954, the Jersey City Hudson City Lions Club has fulfilled the motto of the International Lions Club of "We Serve," and has taken an active role in civic, cultural, and social events. With a membership of dedicated men and women, the JCHCLC has provided exceptional services for our community, promoting a better quality of life for the people it touches.

Working with local churches, hospitals, clinics, summer programs, shelters, and food banks, the Jersey City Hudson City Lions Club has given all its support in gathering necessary supplies and food to help those in need, taking tremendous pride in the positive difference it makes in the lives of the people in its community and around the world.

Jersey City Hudson City Lions Club is renowned for its sight-related programs. Working with St. Joseph's Home of the Blind, the JCHCLC has provided services, including guide dogs, walking canes, vocational training, summer camps, books on tape, spring barbecues and Christmas parties. They also provide vouchers for Lenscrafter, so that children, who would otherwise have no access, can purchase eyeglasses.

At the 50th Anniversary Ball, the Jersey City Hudson City Lions Club honored former JCHCLC President Frank Walsh (1973-1974), who was presented with the "Lion of the Year Award" for his outstanding leadership and dedicated service over the years to the JCHCLC.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the members and officers, past and present, of the Jersey City Hudson City Lions Club in recognition of their outstanding contributions and caring dedication to our community over the last 50 years.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST KENNETH  
ALAN "KENNY" MELTON

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero. Specialist Kenneth Alan "Kenny" Melton was killed when the convoy he was riding in was hit by a roadside bomb and small fire by insurgents near Baghdad. Specialist Melton was 30 years old.

Specialist Melton joined the Army in 1992 and served in Iraq as a member of the Arkansas National Guard's 39th Infantry Brigade. He was following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, who also served their country in the Army. His service is a testament to his dedication to the spirit of this nation and should be admired and respected.

Despite his notable dedication to his country, he was a husband and a father first. A son, a brother and a friend to the community, Specialist Melton was a very positive young man with an overwhelming sense of patriotism.

We can ask nothing greater from a human being than to anonymously fight to help people they may have never met. To die for the freedom of others may not carry with it an adequate expression to illustrate the debt it generates. Specialist Melton has the respect of those whose lives he touched, and, now, grieving family and friends who I offer my deepest sympathies.

Specialist Melton will be remembered for his honor, his mettle, his bravery and his commitment to his family, his God and his country. On behalf of the Congress, I extend my utmost respect for a fine American, a loving father, husband and son, and the perfect model of a patriot.

RECOGNIZING CLAY/PLATTE  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the members of the Clay/Platte Development Corporation who are meeting today to celebrate the past years' successes. They represent the kind of community leadership that is necessary for strong and thriving communities.

Established in 1982, in conjunction with the Clay County EDC, its mission is to provide economic development assistance to businesses in Platte and Clay counties. By proactively seeking businesses and providing them with much needed capital, the Clay/Platte Development Corporation is a cornerstone for business growth in the Northland.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in commending both the past and present members of the Clay/Platte Development Corporation. Their contributions to the people of Missouri's Sixth District are important and commendable.

RECOGNIZING BENEFITS AND IM-  
PORTANCE OF SCHOOL-BASED  
MUSIC EDUCATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. DIANA DeGETTE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2004*

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support House Concurrent Resolution 408, which congratulates the University of Denver for winning the 2004 NCAA Men's Hockey championship. DU's national title, its first since 1969, came against the top-ranked Maine Black Bears, in a nail-biter that stunned the collegiate hockey world.

The championship game on Saturday, April 10, 2004 was college hockey at its best. I watched as the Pioneers took an early lead with a goal by Gabe Gauthier in the first period. The rest of the game was a scoreless defensive struggle. Hockey fans from the Rocky Mountains to the New England coast held their breath during the excruciating final two minutes of the game. In a sequence only fitting for the nationally televised season finale, Maine secured a Power Play while trailing Denver 1-0 when the Pioneers were assessed with two penalties, giving the Black Bears a two-man advantage. In the final minute of play, Maine pulled its goaltender to add another attacker, putting Denver at a 6-3 disadvantage. The clock slowly ticked down to zero, and DU emerged victorious, led by an extraordinary 24-save performance by goaltender Adam Berkhoel, who was named the NCAA Tournament's Most Outstanding Player. His shutout was only the third in the history of the championship game.

It was a great way to end the season for the seven seniors on the Pioneer team. The class of 2004 won more games at the University of Denver than any since the 1973 graduating seniors. Head Coach Geoge Gwozdecky is to be congratulated as well. He is the only person to ever win NCAA titles as a player, assistant coach, and head coach.

The Denver Post noted that the championship game between the University of Denver and the University of Maine was amazing because "they proved that two mid-sized universities can excel in one of the country's mainstay sports." This year's champion Pioneers added a sixth hockey championship to the university's fine athletic record, which includes a record 17 Division I ski team championships, and two titles for the women's gymnastic program. Not only does the University of Denver excel in athletics, it is a prestigious academic institution as well. U.S. News and World Report recently ranked three DU graduate programs among the country's best.

The championship is especially poignant, because the University of Denver hockey program tragically lost one of its most famed alumni just before Christmas last year. Keith Magnuson, the captain of the last DU team to capture the national title 35 years ago, was killed in a car accident just four months ago. Still active with the University, Magnuson regularly attended hockey games, gave locker room speeches to the team, and even played in the school's homecoming game this season. Following his death, the team dedicated the season to his memory, but no one could have imagined the success the team has enjoyed.

Mr. Speaker, I was proud to sponsor this bill, which congratulates the University of Denver 2004 championship hockey team. I am happy to report that the entire Colorado congressional delegation cosponsored H. Con. Res. 408. I also wish to congratulate the Maine Black Bears for an excellent season, and a hard fought championship game. I look forward to a victory celebration for the Pioneers at the U.S. Capitol. I thank the Speaker for bringing this bill to the floor and urge my colleagues to support me in congratulating the University of Denver.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF  
ARTHUR NAPARSTEK

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Professor Arthur Naparstek—devoted family man, caring professor, friend and mentor, and internationally known visionary in the area of urban development.

The son of Polish immigrants, Professor Naparstek was born and raised in New York City. He graduated with a master's degree in social work from New York University, and a doctorate from Brandeis University's Florence Heiler School of Advanced Studies in Social Welfare Administration. Professor Naparstek's professional commitment to economic and social justice began in the early sixties, when he worked as the assistant to Richard G. Hatcher, the first African American mayor of Gary, Indiana. Later, Professor Naparstek joined the National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs in Washington, DC, and worked closely with Congress to create legislation focused on empowering our most vulnerable citizens—our poor.

As professor and Dean of the Case Western Reserve University School of Applied Social Sciences, Mr. Naparstek taught by example and served as an inspiration and mentor to countless students and instructors throughout his tenure. His acclaimed urban redevelopment projects and individual empowerment programs were sought by the administrations of President Carter and President Clinton. As director of the Cleveland Foundation's Commission on Poverty during the early 1990's, Professor Naparstek was instrumental in creating the redevelopment plan for several of Cleveland's most fragile neighborhoods. Because of his vision and heart, the shroud of decline has been lifted from our neighborhoods, illuminating the promise of restoration and possibility along many of our city streets.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and remembrance of Professor Arthur C. Naparstek—an exceptional man, visionary, and leader whose life reflected accomplishment, caring and concern for others. I offer my deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Belleruth; his beloved children, Keila, Aaron, and Abe; and to his extended family and friends. His brilliant and flawless legacy—both personally and professionally will be remembered forever by family, friends and colleagues. Professor Naparstek's vision, heart and leadership will forever serve as a beacon of promise and hope throughout our community, and far beyond.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF O'FALLON, IL

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like my colleagues to join me in honoring the Sesquicentennial of one of the oldest communities in my congressional district, O'Fallon, Illinois.

The City of O'Fallon, Illinois was named in honor of Colonel John O'Fallon. Colonel O'Fallon was a soldier, businessman, real estate owner and public minded citizen. His father, James O'Fallon was a physician who came to this country shortly before the Revolutionary War and served as a surgeon in George Washington's Army. After the war, he went to Louisville, Kentucky where he met and married Frances Clark, a sister of George Rogers Clark and William Clark, army officers, who became famous during the Corps of Discovery exploration of the Louisiana Territory in 1804 and for later development of the Mississippi Valley.

Colonel John O'Fallon's father died when he was a child and he was reared and educated by his mother and uncles. With his army background, he became a soldier. He fought in the War of 1812, where he rose to the rank of Captain. After the war ended, O'Fallon became assistant Indian Agent to his Uncle William Clark of the Lewis and Clark expedition. Later he became a contractor, buying and selling Army supplies. He invested his money and became involved with the expanding railroad industry across the nation. He promoted the Missouri Pacific railroad, as well as the Wabash and B&O railroads. His involvement with railroads and the purchase of lands led him to become the namesake of both O'Fallon, Illinois and O'Fallon, Missouri.

Colonel O'Fallon purchased lands in an area north of St. Louis which lead to the development of the community of O'Fallon Park, Missouri. Always civic-minded, Colonel O'Fallon gave generously to St. Louis University and Washington University and also formed an institute which became the forerunner of today's St. Louis High Schools and the City of St. Louis' public library.

O'Fallon, Illinois was originally platted from lands surrounding the train depot and water tank built for the operation of the B&O railroad. Town lots were platted by Ernest Tiedemann under the direction of Frederick A. Carpenter and Hugh O. Sheerbarth. On May 18, 1854 these lots were sold at a public auction. John and Sarah Distler had erected a log cabin on the site in 1851, but the first house in O'Fallon was built by Anderson Umbarger in 1855. The first post office was established in 1855. O'Fallon was incorporated as a village on January 27, 1874.

A newly replicated depot stands near the site of the beginnings of this community. O'Fallon's early growth was due to the large coal mining industry in the region.

O'Fallon was also home to major businesses like Willard Stove, Tiedeman Milling and the Independent Engineering Company. O'Fallon also had abundant agricultural land which supported large farming operations.

Today, O'Fallon is a community of over 20,000 people. It continues to grow because

of its proximity to Scott Air Force Base and St. Louis. It sits astride I-64 and boasts three interchange exits where large commercial and retail developments are clustered. O'Fallon also is home to the O'Fallon Township High School, which is recognized as one of the top high schools in the region and the state of Illinois. The high school is also home to the Marching Panthers Band, which has won several national awards and is a regular participant in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade in New York City.

The City of O'Fallon continues the growth and development envisioned by Captain O'Fallon. The rail line he developed continues to run through the community delivering vital commerce and supplies to areas to the west.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the founding of the community and the people of the City of O'Fallon on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary.

**HONORING THE CAREER OF JAN  
McBRIDE**

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of a woman of our community as she prepares to retire from professional life. Jan McBride has spent a career in the service of health care delivery, and her imprimatur is throughout our region of Northwest Ohio.

Starting as a pediatric nurse, Jan McBride rose through the ranks of Toledo Hospital and its parent ProMedica Health System, and has been the President of Toledo Children's Hospital since 1998. A balance of compassion and business acumen has marked her tenure in the corporate structure. An engaging leader, Jan McBride has developed many people while moving the Toledo Hospital and ProMedica Health System forward.

Even while pursuing an extensive corporate schedule, Jan McBride has never neglected her civic responsibilities as a community citizen. She has gone "above and beyond" in her commitment to a variety of health, community, and business concerns, serving as an active officer of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's NW Ohio Chapter, the Hospital Council of NW Ohio, Junior Achievement of NW Ohio, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, Lucas County ARC (Association of Retarded Citizens), the National Youth Sports Program, the Neighborhood Health Association, Ohio Children's Hospital Association, Ronald McDonald House Charities, Rotary Club of Toledo, United Way of Greater Toledo, the University of Toledo Alumni Association, and the Zonta Club of Toledo. Her efforts have earned her awards of recognition including the Tribute to Women in Industry, Women in Communication, Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity, and Juvenile Diabetes Foundation honoree.

For forty years, Jan McBride has given of herself to her career and the causes in which she believes. She leaves our community richer, stronger, healthier, and kinder. I know my colleagues join me in wishing Jan McBride well as she writes new chapters in her book of life. Onward!

CONGRATULATING ROBERT L. SATCHER—A MEMBER OF NASA'S 2004 ASTRONAUT CANDIDATE CLASS

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the eleven men and women of NASA's 2004 Astronaut Candidate Class. I especially want to congratulate one of the astronauts, Dr. Robert L. Satcher Jr., who is a constituent of mine, the 7th District of Illinois.

Dr. Robert L. Satcher, Jr., was born in Hampton, Virginia to Robert L. Sr. and Marian H. Satcher; in 1965 and currently lives in Oak Park, Illinois with his wife D'Juanna White. He received his Bachelors of Science in Chemical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1986. In 1993 and 1994 he received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering at MIT and his M.D. at Harvard University respectively. He is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Northwestern University, The Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois.

Today is a proud day for space in the 7th District of Illinois, the United States and the world. These eleven men and women represent the next generation of explorers; they are the ones who will lead us into the future of space exploration, of the Moon, Mars and beyond. They will serve as role models to teach and excite the future generation of explorers.

Mr. Speaker, once again I congratulate these men and women on their hard work, dedication and this great accomplishment and wish them luck as they embark on this journey.

**HONORING WEST NEW YORK  
LEONES CUBANOS DE HUDSON**

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the West New York Leones Cubanos de Hudson in celebration of its 25th anniversary. The West New York Leones Cubanos de Hudson commemorated their 25th anniversary on Saturday, April 24, 2004, at the Landmark in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

West New York Leones Cubanos de Hudson is the largest Lions Club in the State of New Jersey, and the fourth largest in the United States. With a membership of 260 dedicated men and women, the West New York Lions Club has been able to take an active role in civic, cultural, and social events. A non-political and non-sectarian group, the Lions Club is renowned for its sight-related programs, providing services to the blind, including guide dogs, walking canes, and vocational training.

Since 1979, the West New York Leones Cubanos de Hudson has done an exceptional service for its community with the help of dedicated individuals. Working with local churches, hospitals, clinics, summer programs, shelters,

and food banks, the Lions Club has given all its support to promoting a better quality of life to the people it touches. It has also been heavily active in youth development. The Lions-Quest program provides youth with a sense of community, as well as tools and assistance for their success in the future.

With a diverse Hispanic community in West New York, the Lions Club has been active in helping in disaster relief and rebuilding efforts to many areas in the Caribbean and Central and South America impacted by natural disasters. It has been a force in gathering necessary supplies and food to help in times of need, and takes tremendous pride in the positive difference it makes in the lives of the people in its community and around the world.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the members and officers, past and present, of the West New York Leones Cubanos de Hudson in recognition of their outstanding contributions and caring dedication to our community over the last 25 years.

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TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT  
STACEY CRAIG BRANDON

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**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, to die for one's country, while tragic, is the ultimate honor. To die for the freedom of others may not carry with it an adequate expression to illustrate the debt it generates. Today, I rise to honor Staff Sergeant Stacey Brandon who was killed during his tour of duty in Taji, Iraq. He was 35 years-old.

Staff Sergeant Brandon joined the National Guard in 1990 and when he was called to active duty for "Iraqi Freedom" on October 12, 2003, he answered the call and served his country with honor. His ability, intelligence and dedication quickly earned him a promotion to the rank of Staff Sergeant in February 2004.

Despite his notable dedication to his country, he was a husband and a father first. A son, a brother, a friend, an athlete and a light of optimism others were drawn to always. Along with the many lives he touched, Staff Sergeant Brandon carried God in his heart. He was a passionate singer of gospel music and he and his wife, April, joined the Hazen First Baptist Church upon their move to Hazen, Arkansas.

We can ask nothing greater from a human being than to anonymously fight to the end to help people they may have never met. Unfortunately for those left behind, this soldier has a name. He has the respect of those whose lives he touched, and, now, grieving family and friends who I offer my deepest sympathies and utmost respect.

Staff Sergeant Brandon will be remembered for his honor, his mettle, his bravery and his commitment to his family, his God and his country. On behalf of the Congress, I extend the utmost respect for a fine American, a loving father, husband and son, and the perfect model of a patriot.

FREEDOM FOR JORGE OLIVERA  
CASTILLO

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Jorge Olivera Castillo, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Olivera Castillo worked for 10 years as a national television editor. After being confronted on a daily basis with the blatantly false propaganda mandated by the tyrannical regime, he left his job to join other pro-democracy activists working for freedom and human rights for every Cuban citizen. Using his skills as a journalist, Mr. Olivera Castillo began to report on the brutal policies of the totalitarian regime. He later became the director of the Havana Press agency. Starting in 2001, Mr. Olivera Castillo's articles concerning the state of Cuba under totalitarian rule were published in Spain.

Because of Mr. Olivera Castillo's unrelenting commitment to writing the truth about the totalitarian regime, he has been constantly harassed by the dictator's thugs. According to Amnesty International, Mr. Olivera Castillo has been expelled from his house, arrested, and accused of "counterrevolutionary" activities by the tyrant Castro. During the brutal March 2003 crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists and independent journalists, Mr. Olivera Castillo was arrested. In a sham trial, Mr. Olivera Castillo was sentenced to 18 years in the totalitarian gulag because of his commitment to truth over propaganda.

Mr. Olivera Castillo is currently languishing in an infernal cell in the totalitarian gulag. Reporters Without Borders reports that Mr. Olivera Castillo is suffering from numerous medical problems, is confined with common prisoners, and is being forced to drink seriously polluted water. These depraved conditions are truly appalling. It is a crime of the highest order that people who work for freedom are imprisoned in these nightmarish conditions.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Olivera Castillo is suffering in a grotesque, inhumane, totalitarian gulag because he believes in freedom. My colleagues, we can no longer allow peaceful pro-democracy activists to languish in the depraved prisons of tyrants. We must demand immediate freedom for Jorge Olivera Castillo and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

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NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 2004 National Day of Prayer—a day set aside by millions of people across this country to acknowledge God and give him thanks for all that is truly good. Once again, we are reminded of our need for him in the midst of turmoil and suffering around the world, and we recall our need to listen and hear from the Almighty.

Right now there are thousands of young men and women in uniform who are bravely serving this country in Iraq, Afghanistan and in other foreign countries. We ask God to protect them and grant them favor. We ask God to comfort their families and loved ones who eagerly await their return. Let us continue to pray for peace in these lands and for reconciliation among its people.

Throughout American history—from the earliest settlers to the Continental Congress, from General George Washington to President George W. Bush—the American people have called upon the Providence of God.

In 1775, the Continental Congress issued a proclamation setting aside a day of prayer. In 1952, Congress established an annual day of prayer, and then in 1988, the law was amended designating the National Day of Prayer as the first Thursday in May.

Our country has witnessed the benefits of national prayer and fasting in times past, and I hope citizens from all walks of life will humbly acknowledge God and seek his guidance, strength and resolve.

Let us remember to pray for our President, his Cabinet, military leaders, Members of Congress, Supreme Court Justices, State governors and local officials.

And may we, like our Founding Fathers, earnestly seek to know God's will for us and our country on this national day of prayer.

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RECOGNIZING MR. CLYDE  
LEHMANN

**HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this day during Teacher Appreciation Week in recognition of a very special person, Clyde Lehmann. Mr. Lehmann has been selected to receive the 2004 Milken National Educator Award.

The Milken National Educator Award is a very prestigious award that acknowledges quality teachers, and highlights how they are required to ensure the academic success of America's students. It is bestowed upon K-12 teachers in recognition of demonstrated excellence in teaching. Awardees are chosen based upon their: Exceptional educational talent as evidenced by outstanding instructional practices in the classroom, school and profession; outstanding accomplishments and strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership; and engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues and the community.

Mr. Lehmann has certainly earned such an award. As a Latin teacher at Northside Health Careers High School, he uses creativity to keep his students interested in learning. He accomplishes this by using poetry, performance, song, and even travel to pique students' interest in his classes.

His unfaltering dedication to the achievement of his students is reflected in their impressive academic successes—a large number of Mr. Lehmann's students have earned gold and silver medals at National Latin competitions. He has demonstrated his interest in and passion for Latin through his teaching. This passion has seemingly been contagious—four of his former students have become Latin teachers.

Mr. Lehmann has demonstrated his devotion to Latin by engaging in related activities outside of the classroom. This teacher's devotion to his realm of study has led him to sponsor the Health Careers Latin Club which, with one hundred members, is one of the largest organizations on campus. Along with his wife, Mr. Lehmann has organized summer tours of ancient sites in Rome for his students. Additionally, he also has twice served as the president of the San Antonio Classical Society.

I am very proud of Mr. Lehmann and his professional accomplishments. Nothing is more important in one's life than education. I am pleased to acknowledge a man whose knowledge, commitment, drive, and enthusiasm have clearly been a meaningful, positive influence on his students' lives.

CONGRATULATING CHARTER  
SCHOOLS FOR THEIR ONGOING  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2004*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the continued success of our Nation's charter schools. I am extremely proud of the several Charter schools that reside in my district. Many may not fully understand the difference between a regular public school and a Charter school. In Chicago, the Charter schools are public schools, open to all children who reside in Chicago without academic admissions criteria. Each charter school has a unique mission and is operated by community organizations, universities, foundations and school teachers. While charter schools are funded by the Board of Education, they are not required to follow many board regulations. For example, they are free to set their own policies for curriculum, school hours and discipline. But charter schools are held accountable for high student academic achievement by the Board of Education.

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate some of the great charter schools in my district:

The first arts-focused charter school in Chicago, the Charter School of the Chicago Children's Choir (CSCCC), integrate music throughout its interdisciplinary academic curriculum. Learning is project-oriented and emphasizes creativity. Students are able to sing in as many as 17 different languages. The late Rev. Christopher Moore founded the choir in 1956 with "a dream that young people from diverse backgrounds could better understand each other, as well as learn about themselves, by learning to make beautiful music together." The choir that Moore started with a handful of kids in the First Unitarian Church of Chicago on the South Side has grown into a downtown-based, city-wide program that brings together nearly 3,000 children each year. Its groups have performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Lyric Opera, at the White House, and around the world.

In 2000, community leaders working to improve educational opportunities in the West Side neighborhood of Lawndale created L.E.A.R.N., Lawndale Educational and Regional Network. They applied for a charter

school and hired Nancy Dearhammer, an experienced charter school leader, to plan the curriculum and become executive director. L.E.A.R.N. will emphasize high academic standards through a 10:1 student-teacher ratio, a rigorous curriculum, year-round classes and parent involvement. L.E.A.R.N.'s year-round schedule is unusual: 9 weeks on followed by 2 weeks off, giving students a safe, positive environment all year. Parent involvement is key in the mission of the school with monthly parent teacher conversations, bi-monthly parental satisfaction surveys, and strong encouragement to volunteer at the school to keep parents involved. L.E.A.R.N. is also fundraising to offer pre-school, adult education and community health services to Lawndale families.

A strong work ethic and solid commitment to education are the cornerstones of success at North Lawndale College Prep and the only requirements for admission. A rigorous community school for 350 students on Chicago's west side, North Lawndale Prep graduated its first class in June 2002. It is dedicated to developing, as opposed to merely recruiting, college-ready students from impoverished city neighborhoods. With high expectations, every student is expected to complete four years of English, social studies, and math, three years of science, and two years of foreign language. There are extra courses in reading for freshmen, writing for sophomores, and oral expression for juniors. At every level, students are expected to produce their best work consistently. In addition to athletics and after-school activities, North Lawndale Prep offers students a wide array of summer programs. These include outdoor adventure programs, an extensive orientation for freshmen, internships at Chicago businesses, and attendance at prestigious prep school and college summer programs. The summer programs expand the horizons of North Lawndale Prep students and prepare them for the challenges of college.

As demonstrated in these three examples, Charter schools provide excellence in education by delivering high-quality education and challenging our students to reach their potential. Charter schools have brought hope and the idea of success back to many poor, disadvantaged areas that felt abandoned by the education system. I commend the students for their hard work, dedication and success, the teachers for their love of education and commitment to the school and the students, and all parents for playing an active role in their child's education and more importantly their lives by letting that child know that you care and are interested in what they do every day.

TRIBUTE TO KAHUKU HIGH  
SCHOOL

**HON. ED CASE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the incredible students of Kahuku High School for their great achievement in winning fourth place at the national finals of the We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution program held in Washington, D.C. from May 1–3, 2004. These outstanding students from my O'ahu's North Shore underwent

months of intensive study and hard-won victories to win the right to represent Hawaii in the finals, where they competed against a class from every state in the country and demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideas and values of American constitutional government.

This is the first time in Hawaii's eight-year history at this rigorous competition that one of our schools has competed in the final ten. This is truly a wonderful accomplishment that our whole state is deeply proud of!

I commend Kahuku's great teacher, Sandra Cashman, for her unending commitment to her students and for producing generations of responsible citizens. Commendations are also in order to State Director of We the People Lyla Berg and District Coordinator Sharon Kaohi for their leadership in creating our leaders of tomorrow.

However, ultimately this competition is by and about our kids. So I would like to send my heartiest congratulations to Samuel Braden, Chelsey Bunker, Stacia Colton, Brian Craycraft, Tusiata Esera, Lacey Golonka, Evelyn Griffin, Reis Harney, Celesta Hubner, Azura Iversen-Keahi, Jeremy James, Natalie Kamauoha, Jennifer Kamiya, Tiffany Lee, Brook McArthur, Donna Ramos, Alicia Reidy, Leilani Relator, Aaron Rillamos, Austin Spring, Ian Tapu, Alexandra Thompson, Rachel Telleson, Seini Unga, and Jordan Williams. You have all made Hawaii proud. Aloha and best of wishes in your future endeavors.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

**HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I would submit this prayer for the RECORD for the National Day of Prayer.

Father, we come to you this day that we have set aside for prayer in this great nation. May we be a nation of prayer not just on this day, but every day.

We come today acknowledging you as the Creator of heaven and earth. We thank you that You have given us the privilege of living in this great land and have blessed it in a mighty way. Our prayer today is that we would indeed be "One Nation under God".

We pray for our President as he leads during these difficult days. Give him the wisdom and courage to make clear and decisive decisions. We pray for the men and women that are defending our world today from evil. We pray for their safety and their return to the family and loved ones that wait anxiously for their homecoming. May their families know your peace and comfort now as never before. Freedom and liberty do not come without a price. Many have gone before and paid a huge price for us to live in this great nation and to enjoy the freedoms we have today. Let us never forget their sacrifice and help us to be good stewards of the inheritance they have left us.

Finally, Father today more than ever our nation needs healing. The principles on which this nation was founded and which You ordained are under attack. The scriptures say, "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my



face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." Our prayer today is that America would be a nation that daily seeks You and that our ways would be pleasing in your sight and that You would indeed heal our land.

We ask all these things in the name of your son Jesus. Amen.

# HONORING PRESIDENT HARRY S TRUMAN

## HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, May 8, 2004, will mark the 120th anniversary of the birth of Harry S Truman in the town of Lamar, Missouri. He would go on to serve in the military in World War I and hold elected office as judge, United States senator, Vice President, and President of the United States. His is a story and a life that we can all learn from.

Harry Truman answered the call to duty in World War I. He helped organize the 2nd Regiment of Missouri Field Artillery. The regiment was called into Federal service, renamed the 129th Field Artillery, and sent to serve on the battlefields of France. Earning the confidence of his fellow soldiers, Truman rose quickly to the rank of captain and was given the command of the regiment's Battery D, a regiment that still exists today in the Missouri National Guard.

Truman entered elected office in 1922, successfully seeking the position of Jackson County Court judge. Following winning campaigns for presiding judge of the Jackson County Court in 1924 and 1930, Judge Truman sought and won the office of United States Senator for Missouri in 1934.

Senator Truman won reelection in 1940. In the Senate, he distinguished himself in the passage of the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938, the Transportation Act of 1940, and as the chairman of the Senate Special Committee to Investigate the National Defense Program.

In July, 1944, the Democratic Party nominated Harry Truman to run for Vice President with President Franklin Roosevelt. With President Roosevelt's unexpected death, Harry Truman was sworn in as President only eighty-two days after taking the vice-presidential oath.

President Truman's first year saw some of the most significant events of the twentieth century. The death of Adolf Hitler and the end of the European front in World War II was soon followed by Truman's courageous decision to drop two atomic bombs on Japan, bringing a quick surrender and an end to the war. Truman's first year also saw the creation of the United Nations and the first steps into the century's next great struggle: the Cold War.

Truman tackled the Communist challenge with a singular determination. The Truman Doctrine enunciated the willingness of the United States to provide military assistance to countries determined to fight Communist forces. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization created a wall between the free nations of Western Europe and the communist forces of the Warsaw Pact. As President Truman

sought to guarantee Western Europe's physical security, through the Marshall Plan he worked to secure the economies of America's European allies. In the ultimate show of his resolve to fight Communism on every front, President Truman responded with military force to an invasion of South Korea.

Following his years as President, Harry Truman returned to Independence, Missouri. He took to calling himself "Mr. Citizen". His daily walks became a popular local story that soon spread nationwide. After all of the extraordinary events he witnessed and in which he participated, Harry Truman desired no more than to return to a simple life.

Mr. Speaker, President Truman left us with the phrase, "the buck stops here". It is a philosophy of life that all Americans could learn from and is one reason why he has the respect of both Republicans and Democrats today. Harry Truman was a valuable leader and a great president. I know my fellow Members will join me on this day in remembering his important contributions to the United States of America.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent during rollcall votes 142, 143, 144, 145, and 146. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 142, 144, and 146. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 143 and 145.

## TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CORINTHIAN NUTTER

### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 50th anniversary of the Brown vs. Topeka, Kansas, Board of Education decision, I rise today to note the recent passing of a civil rights pioneer who resided in the Third Congressional District of Kansas.

Corinthian Nutter, an African-American teacher whose rejection of degrading conditions in her Kansas school during the 1940s led to an important role in our nation's desegregation struggle, died on February 11th at her home in Shawnee, Kansas, at the age of 97.

Nutter was an important witness in a 1949 lawsuit that helped open the courthouse doors for Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, the landmark 1954 case in which the U.S. Supreme Court declared segregated schools unconstitutional. A Texas native, she was the only certified teacher at Walker Elementary School in Merriam, Kansas, in the late 1940s. Only black children attended Walker, where eight grades studied outdated textbooks in two classrooms in a run down school lacking indoor plumbing.

In 1947, administrators in school district No. 90, which included Merriam, built a new school with the proceeds of a \$90,000 bond election. Unlike Walker, the white students-

only South Park Elementary School had indoor plumbing, an auditorium and a cafeteria. It also had one teacher and one classroom for each of its eight grades, along with a music teacher and a kindergarten.

When the black parents of Walker Elementary School demanded that their children be admitted to the new school, the school district leadership refused, contending that enrollment was based on the attendance areas drawn for each school. A local NAACP chapter then aided the families in filing suit against the school system, while Nutter, who received only a small financial stipend from the NAACP for her work, taught 39 children whose parents withdrew them from Walker for the duration of the trial.

In 1949's Webb v. School District 90, the lawsuit filed on behalf of the 39 families, Nutter was the key witness, detailing the many inadequacies of the separate and unequal facility. "I just told them the truth," Nutter said in an interview with the Kansas City Star in 2002. "The school was dilapidated. We had no modern conveniences, had to go outside to go to the toilet. . . . Schools shouldn't be for color. They should be for the children." The NAACP's victory in this case paved the way for the Brown decision five years later.

After the Webb decision, Nutter moved to nearby Olathe, Kansas, where she taught and later became principal at Westview Elementary School, despite being the only African-American on the school's staff for decades. After retiring from education in 1972, Nutter received the YWCA of Greater Kansas City's first Racial Justice Award for 2003, was named to the Rosa Parks Wall of Tolerance, and was inducted into the Mid-America Education Hall of Fame at Kansas City, Kansas, Community College.

Mr. Speaker, I am placing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD two recent articles concerning Corinthian Nutter: an article from the Kansas City Call regarding her induction into the Mid-America Education Hall of Fame and her obituary from the Kansas City Star. I am pleased to have this opportunity to pay tribute to this important, yet unheralded, resident of the Third Congressional District of Kansas.

[From The Call, Oct. 17, 2003]

CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER CORINTHIAN NUTTER  
INTO EDUCATION HALL OF FAME  
(By Alan Hoskins)

Corinthian Nutter knew at an early age she didn't want to follow in her mother's footsteps scrubbing floors.

But no one could ever foresee the profound effect she would have on the world of education and her deserved induction into the Mid-America Education Hall of Fame at Kansas City, KS, Community College November 1.

The third of five children born 96 years ago in Forney, Texas, Mrs. Nutter realized early that she wasn't going to get much of an education—particularly when she was held out of school when the cotton got ripe. Her mother, who scrubbed floors and took in white people's washing, never saw the inside of a school. Her father was the uneducated son of a slave who lived to 102.

"I could see I wasn't going to get much schooling," says Mrs. Nutter, who married at age 14 because "nice girls didn't run away from home." When the marriage fell apart two years later, she fled Texas but not before taking a course in beauty school.

"I wanted to get enough education to get me a good enough job to get others to do the



things I didn't want to do," says Mrs. Nutter. Moving to Kansas City at age 16, she got a job in a beauty shop and set out in pursuit of that education although it wasn't easy.

Segregation still prevailed so to earn a high school diploma, Mrs. Nutter would get on a bus in Kansas City, MO, and ride to the end of the bus line on Quindaro in Kansas City, KS, and then walk another mile or two to what then was Western university. She graduated from high school in 1936 and two years later finished Western's junior college program with a Kansas teaching certificate.

She began her career teaching in an all-black school with just one other teacher in Shawnee in 1938. After five years, she moved over to Walker Elementary, a run down two-room school for black children in Merriam.

In 1948, South Park Elementary school was opened at a cost of \$90,000. With an auditorium, cafeteria, separate teachers and classrooms for each grade and indoor plumbing, it looked like a castle compared to Walker, which was without indoor plumbing. South Park's only shortcoming: it was open only to white students.

When one of the Walker parents, a domestic worker in the home of a woman named Esther Brown, told Mrs. Brown of the inequalities of the schools, Mrs. Brown became enraged and suggested they sue—which was just what happened after the formation of a local NAACP chapter that helped organize the parents and file suit against the school district.

To give even further substance to the suit, 39 of the 41 Walker families took their children out of school and Mrs. Nutter went with them. While the suit crept slowly through the judicial system, Mrs. Nutter continued to teach the children in private homes. The new NAACP branch paid her a small monthly stipend and parents sold cookies on weekends to help but Mrs. Nutter said she would have done it for nothing. "It was the right thing to do," she said.

When the suit finally came to trial, she was a key witness in the watershed desegregation case, *Webb vs. School District 90*. "I told them the truth," she said. "The school was dilapidated. We had no modern conveniences, had to go outside to go to the toilet. If they were going to build a new school and the parents were paying taxes like everybody else, why couldn't their children go? Schools shouldn't be for a color. They should be for children."

Triumph was finally achieved in 1949 and would pave the way for other legal challenges including the historical *Brown vs. Topeka Board of Education* in 1954. Now the home of the Philadelphia Baptist church, Walker Elementary still bears a historical marker that serves as the lone testament to its place in history.

After a year and a half earning a Bachelor of Science degree at Emporia State, Mrs. Nutter would return to the classroom but this time as principal in an all-black school in Olathe. When Olathe integrated a few years later, she became principal at the district's newest school, Westview, although for several years she was the only person—staff or children—of color. Returning to the classroom to teach sixth grade and then fifth grade, she retired from teaching at age 65 in 1972.

As the only black in the school, she received some resistance from parents but her teaching ethics earned her the love of her students and some of the same parents who originally questioned her later tried to get their children into her class.

The list of her former students is as impressive as it is long and often as not, the first person those former students look up when they get back in town is Mrs. Nutter. "Many of them are grandparents but I still call them kids," she says.

During her 25 years of teaching, she would continue her education by taking summer classes at Emporia State and earned a Masters degree in 1956. "I was always working towards something all those years," says Mrs. Nutter, who learned that she was only three hours and a dissertation from a Ph.D. during Emporia State ceremonies honoring her last year.

Despite her advancing age, she's still active in several organizations including the Alpha Kappa Sorority, the Mu chapter of Beta Omega, NAACP and her lifelong church, Paseo Baptist. A proud member of the American Association of University Women, she continues to drive and refuses to walk with a cane because she said she's "too modest" to use one.

She's received countless awards including the YWCA of Greater Kansas City's first Racial Justice Award for 2003 and is featured prominently in an exhibit at the Johnson County Museum. A widow, her husband of 57 years passed away in 1998.

No story on Corinthian Nutter would be complete without that of her arrival in Kansas City at age 16. "I was so ignorant when I got here," she recalls. "I didn't know anyone so I called the YWCA at 19th and Paseo. They said they didn't keep girls but if I got a taxi and came over, they'd try to find me a room."

During the next several years until she could get her own apartment, she lived in the home of Willie Mack Washington, his wife and mother. Washington was a drummer in Bennie Moten's famous orchestra and Mrs. Nutter soon became fast friends with Moten and a young player in his orchestra named William (Count) Basie.

"They took me into their family and I got to go to all the dances because I was with them," remembers Mrs. Nutter. "Count Basie was the piano player and we had a ball. Later on, my house became a party house and everyone would come to my house. Everyone had a piano then, it was the first thing I bought. I wished I had a nickel for every time Count Basie played my piano."

Looking back on her long career, Mrs. Nutter doesn't believe she ever did anything special. "I appreciate people thinking about me. I always felt you should choose something that's best for you and do it right."

As for scrubbing those floors like her mother? Never happened. "I've never scrubbed a floor in my life," she proclaims proudly.

Open to the public, tickets for the gala dinner and induction festivities Nov. 1 are \$55 and can be reserved by calling the Endowment Association at KCKCC (913-288-7632).

[From the Kansas City Star, Feb. 12, 2004]

CIVIL-RIGHTS LEADER NUTTER DIES AT 97

(By Finn Bullers)

Corinthian Nutter, a civil-rights pioneer who helped to desegregate Merriam schools years before the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* of Topeka ruling, died Wednesday night.

She was 97.

Humble and self-effacing, she was known to many friends, admirers and former pupils as simply "Miss Nutter."

She was the only certified teacher at Walker Elementary, Merriam's school for black children in the late 1940s. The building was old and lacked indoor plumbing, and the students made do with books and supplies discarded by other schools.

Things reached a tipping point when School District 90 constructed a new building, South Park Elementary, for white pupils nearby. Stung by the inequity between Walker and South Park, the African-American community in Merriam rallied together,

forming an NAACP chapter and suing School District 90 in 1948.

When 39 of 41 families with pupils at Walker pulled their children out of school, Nutter joined the walkout.

Half a century later, one of the Walker pupils, Harvey Webb, recalled in a magazine interview, "Had not someone like her said, 'I'm with you, let's do this, I'll hang in there with you and teach the kids to the best of my ability,' this might not have happened then."

Nutter became a key witness in the case of *Webb v. School District 90*, and she said in the same magazine article: "I just told them the truth. The school was dilapidated, we had no modern conveniences, had to go outside to go to the toilet. And if they were going to build a new school and the parents were paying taxes like everybody else, why couldn't their children go? Schools shouldn't be for a color. They should stand at a be for children."

With another teacher, Hazel McCray Weddington, Nutter continued to teach her pupils until the Kansas Supreme Court ruled in their favor in 1949.

More court challenges to desegregation followed the Walker victory, culminating in the landmark *Brown* decision in 1954.

Originally from Texas, Nutter was married at 14 and trained at a beauty shop. But after the marriage failed and a friend told her of the good times in Kansas City, she headed north, arriving in the 1920s at age 16.

She had little education, but she had intelligence and dreams of a life beyond domestic drudgery and manual labor.

Knowing nobody in town, Nutter turned to the YWCA, which placed her in an apartment with the family of Willie Mack Washington, the drummer in Bennie Moten's famous orchestra.

She would become fast friends with Moten and a young Count Basie, who played piano in Moten's band.

"I got a chance to go to all the dances and hear all the orchestras that came from out of town," she recalled. "I got in free because I was with them. And after the dance, those musicians wouldn't want to go right home and go to bed. So our house was the party house."

Despite the good times, she held fast to her dream of earning an education.

Even though she was older than most of the students, she eventually graduated from high school in 1936. Two years later, she completed a junior college program at Western University in Kansas City, Kan., earning her teaching certificate.

She began teaching, but also spent her summers attending Emporia State Teachers College in search of a bachelor's degree. It took her more than 10 years, but she received her bachelor's degree in education in 1950, not long after the South Park decision.

Eventually, she would earn a master's degree and do most of the work toward a doctorate. She became a life member of the American Association of University Women.

In 1941, she married Austin K. Nutter, and the marriage lasted until his death in 1998.

After the South Park case, Nutter spent many years as a sixth-grade teacher at Westview Elementary School in Olathe. She also served for a time as principal of the school.

She retired in 1972.

Looking back over her life and the role she played in the battle to desegregate schools, Nutter was humble about her role.

"I was just the teacher who could tell the tale," she said. "I just don't think I've done anything outstanding."

# RECOGNIZING BENEFITS AND IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL-BASED MUSIC EDUCATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2004*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 380, to acknowledge the great benefits and the importance of music in our Nation's schools.

We know music education helps young minds to develop creativity and expression of emotions. Studies show that early music training can enhance a child's ability to reason and think critically, that children exposed to music at a young age learn better in other subjects, and that children trained in music score significantly higher on reading tests than those who were not. Unfortunately, these programs are being cut from more and more schools with the majority of students attending public schools in inner city neighborhoods having virtually no access to music education, which places them at a disadvantage compared to their peers in other communities.

Although studies show the great outcomes of having music education, local budget cuts are depriving approximately 30,000,000 students of an education that includes music. It is not only at the local level that is forcing schools to abandon music education but the lack of federal funding as well. As our schools struggle to meet No Child Left Behind guidelines without full funding, provide education to all students without full funding for IDEA, schools are faced with making the decisions to cut music, art, after school activities or being labeled a failing school. We need to not only recognize the benefits and importance of music education, but embrace it, realize the need for it and other art education programs in all of our nation's schools and most importantly save music education from becoming extinct. Without music education so many of our great musicians that we admire today—would be doing something else. But the school music program was there for them and we need to have it there for the next generation of musicians.

COMMENDING DAVID LEESON AND CHERYL DIAZ MEYER OF DALLAS MORNING NEWS STAFF, WINNERS OF 2004 PULITZER PRIZE FOR BREAKING NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate two great journalists, David Leeson and Cheryl Diaz Meyer of Dallas Morning News, who were recently awarded the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News Photography.

We Texans saw blood spill, tears shed and conflict unfold in the trenches of Iraq through their camera lens.

Mr. Leeson, who was with the U.S. Army's Third Infantry Division for six weeks, captured

an image of an Iraqi rolling out of a vehicle engulfed in flames, only to be shot by an American soldier; Ms. Meyer photographed a gripping scene of American troops risking their lives to save a wounded civilian.

The Pulitzer is Leeson's first. He had been a Pulitzer finalist three other times. The Iraq war is the 11th major conflict Leeson has covered. He has also produced work on the apartheid in South Africa, a portion of the Gulf War and flooding in Southeast Texas.

It was the first Pulitzer for Ms. Meyer also, a News photographer since 2000. In late 2001, she traveled to Afghanistan to photograph the war on terrorism and its effects to topple the oppressive Taliban regime. She has received numerous awards for her body of work there including the John Faber Award from the Overseas Press Club. In April 2002, Ms. Meyer traveled to the Philippines and Indonesia where she photographed Muslim and Christian extremism and the violence caused by religious hatred.

Mr. Speaker, I also congratulate the Dallas Morning News' entire staff for their seventh Pulitzer.

Mr. Leeson and Ms. Meyer, I commend you for this great accomplishment. Keep capturing those shots because they are worth a thousand words.

IN MEMORY OF CAPTAIN ARTHUR L. FELDER

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Arthur L. Felder of Lewisville, AR, who died on April 24, 2004, fighting for his country in Taji, Iraq. Arthur "Bo" Felder, just 36 years old, was one of four soldiers killed during an attack on the base camp of the Arkansas's 39th Infantry Brigade. I wish to recognize his life and achievements.

Bo spent nearly two decades serving the Army and National Guard. During that time, he served in peacekeeping missions in Bosnia and Honduras. While not serving our country, children were Bo's passion, and he spent much of life involved with youth. He worked at Step One Alternative school in Little Rock, a school for kids with legal troubles, and served as a youth director at St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church in North Little Rock.

I am deeply saddened by the tragic loss of soldiers from Arkansas's 39th Brigade, who died while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. These brave Americans lost their lives while making the ultimate sacrifice to serve our country, and I will be forever grateful to them for their courageous spirit.

Bo gave his life to serve our country and will forever be remembered as a hero, a son, and a father. My deepest condolences go out to his son Jaelun, eight years old, his daughter Amari, four years old, his mother, Dr. Cheryl Stuart, his brothers, Robert Stuart and Little Felder, and two sisters, Gwendolyn Gingery and Kelana Greer. I know Bo was proud of his service to the U.S. Army and to our country. He will be missed by his family, fellow soldiers, and all those who knew him and counted him as a friend. I will continue to keep Bo and his family in my thoughts and prayers.

RECOGNITION OF MR. ANDREW JACKSON HIGGINS

**HON. TOM OSBORNE**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Mr. Andrew Jackson Higgins whom President Eisenhower once said is "The man who won the war for us", referring to his development and production of Patrol Torpedo (PT) boats that landed on the shores of many beaches during World War II.

Andrew Jackson Higgins was born on August 28, 1886, in Columbus, Nebraska, to John Gonigle and Anna Long (O'Conner) Higgins. His innovative mind showed itself at an early age, and by 12 years old, he was motivated to build his first craft in the basement of his home. The shallow water boats that floated along the Loup and Platte Rivers during his childhood inspired him.

His passion for boats did not stop in his childhood; Mr. Higgins organized Higgins Industries, Inc. in 1930, to build boats for his lumber business. He began designing boats because of navigation problems he encountered involving the moving of logs in shallow waterways. The structure of these shallow boats eventually led to the development of the PT boats and their capability to travel in shallow water.

He also created PT boats, which were also known as Higgins Boats. Higgins Boats, constructed of wood and steel, transported fully-armed troops, light tanks, field artillery, and other mechanized equipment essential to Allied versatile operations including the decisive D-Day attack at Normandy, France. He continued to design boats and eventually engineered over 20,000, including rocket-firing landing craft support boats, high-speed boats and various types of military landing craft.

Following the D-Day attack, thousands of lesser-known assaults employed Higgins Boats, which included landing on the beaches of Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Tarawa, Okinawa, Leyte, and Guam. Mr. Higgins not only specialized in landing craft such as PT boats, but also constructed freight supply ships and airborne lifeboats that could be dropped from B-17 Bombers.

The production of Higgins Boats enabled Mr. Higgins to establish four major assembly plants in New Orleans for mass construction of landing craft and other vessels vital to the Allied forces' conduct of World War II. He also trained over 30,000 Navy, Marine, and Coast Guard personnel on the safe operation of landing craft at the Higgins' Boat Operators School.

Mr. Higgins had another great accomplishment during World War II that established a progressive social policy at Higgins Industries Inc. He employed a fully integrated assembly workforce of black and white men and women. His policy was equal pay for equal work, decades before integration and racial and gender equality became the law of our land.

In 1964, the former President Dwight D. Eisenhower said of Andrew Jackson Higgins, "He is the man who won the war for us. If Mr. Higgins had not developed and produced those landing craft, we never could have gone in over an open beach. We would have had to change the entire strategy of the war."

Mr. Higgins enriched the lives of everyone fortunate enough to have known him. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, we extend our deepest appreciation to Mr. Higgins' family and friends. Please join me in honoring Mr. Andrew Jackson Higgins, an exceptional individual who dedicated his life to the service of our country.

#### COMMENDING THE ALAMEDA CORRIDOR TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTA). Earlier today, ACTA representatives formally presented the U.S. Department of Transportation with the final payments for a loan, including interest, which totals nearly \$573 million. This final payment was made 28 years ahead of schedule.

Opened on time and within budget, the Alameda Corridor is a 20-mile rail expressway connecting dock terminals in the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to transcontinental rail yards located in downtown Los Angeles. The project proceeds primarily along and adjacent to Alameda Street—with grade separations to safeguard local communities and pedestrian and vehicle traffic—through or bordering the cities of Vernon, Huntington Park, South Gate, Lynwood, Compton, Carson, Los Angeles, and the County of Los Angeles.

Much of the Corridor's success was made possible by an innovative federal loan, which deferred debt service repayments in the early years of the project and allowed for financing at reasonable interest rates through the bond market. In fact, this novel financing approach was the basis for the Transportation Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act of 1998 (TIFIA), a national program to select projects for credit assistance.

The Alameda Corridor is a project of national significance as it facilitates the movement of commerce from around the world to the entire nation. The Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach together handle more than 40 percent of the nation's imports by value. More than 2 million jobs nationwide are associated with trade through these ports. These workers, and this country, benefit from the Federal government's role in assuming the early project risk that made the Alameda Corridor possible.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, let me again congratulate the ACTA team for their management of the project and the early loan repayment completed today. The Alameda Corridor is a model project and has set a new standard for excellence. I look forward to working on future "goods movement" projects such as this that will benefit our region and the Nation.

#### IN RECOGNITION THE MOTHERS' CLUB OF PINE CREST SCHOOL

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Mothers' Club of Pine Crest School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. For 60 years, the Mothers' Club has been the lifeblood of Pine Crest School. The organization is comprised of over 450 mothers of current elementary-age students.

The Mothers' Club works diligently behind the scenes to ensure an optimal educational experience for Pine Crest's students. They promote community by organizing orientation programs which help acclimate new students and their parents to Pine Crest School. Every Pine Crest School event benefits from the support, involvement and assistance of the Mothers' Club. The Mothers' Club coordinates family barbecues, holiday gatherings and a festival of the arts.

The Mothers' Club always lovingly and willingly contributes to Pine Crest School, in any capacity necessary. This includes coordinating and chaperoning an annual field trip to Washington, D.C. These dedicated mothers volunteer in the classrooms and tutor students, assist in the library and implement a book share program, and serve lunch to students.

Mr. Speaker, the efforts of the Mothers' Club benefit not only Pine Crest School but also the greater South Florida community. These women coordinate various philanthropic endeavors to benefit local charities. Their hard work is noticed and appreciated throughout South Florida. In honor of their hard work for the last 60 years, I wish to recognize and commend the wonderful women of Pine Crest School's Mothers' Club for their dedicated service to children and elementary education.

#### RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING AWARENESS OF AUTISM

SPEECH OF

**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 5, 2004*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 605 to recognize the importance of generating awareness about autism, increasing research efforts into this terrible disorder, and improving support for those who suffer from autism and those who help care for the autistic. My 13 year old nephew Jack has autism, so I am part of an extended family working to raise a child with this disability. My family's ongoing experience has impressed upon me how critical it is for us, as a society, to give those with autism and their families the support they need to fight this devastating disease, and to commit the resources necessary to determine the cause of autism and to develop a cure for the millions of afflicted individuals.

Autism is not rare. Autism affects approximately 1 in every 166 children in the United States, making it one of the most common childhood medical disorders. In many cases,

those with autism will never marry, they will never live independently, and more than half of them will never learn to speak. Families affected by autism are forced to bear an extraordinary burden. Parents, siblings and friends have to learn to try to communicate with and care for a child who may be incapable of either verbal or nonverbal communication or who may exhibit erratic behavior. The fact that autism is so common is proof that autism research is deserving of our nation's wholehearted support.

Funding for autism research at the National Institutes of Health has been increased from approximately \$93 million in Fiscal Year 2003 to \$96 million in Fiscal Year 2004, but we know that is not enough. Scientists continue to disagree on the cause or causes for the dramatic increase in the number of autism cases diagnosed in the United States. Only with increased research will we be able to understand autism, find better treatments and effective prevention methods, and hopefully, someday soon, develop a cure for this terrible disease.

I am pleased to be here today as a cosponsor of H. Res. 605. I applaud Representative TIERNEY for authoring this Resolution and working to bring attention and resources to an all too common, but devastating disorder. At its peak, there were 20,000 cases of polio each year. Today, less than 10 Americans contract polio annually. By working together and by never giving up, I know we can make autism just as rare. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING AWARENESS OF AUTISM

SPEECH OF

**HON. LEE TERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 5, 2004*

Mr. TERRY. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 605 to support National Autism Awareness Month; commend the parents and caregivers of autistic children; support aggressive research into autism; and recognize the importance of early intervention.

If you were to see nine-year-old Jacob Nolan Hirschfeld on the baseball diamond today you might be impressed with his skills in playing our national pastime. Since his middle name was inspired by the great pitcher Nolan Ryan, you might also think that his success on the field was destined. But Jacob's ability to play baseball, and to do everyday things such as attending school and playing with friends, were never guaranteed.

Jacob Hirschfeld has been diagnosed with autism.

Jake struggles with most of the issues common among the autistic. At four years of age he could only speak in one syllable words. He was scared of loud noises and bright lights. He had many of the compulsions that are common with these children, and was fearful of most people outside of his immediate family. Jacob's father, Mark Hirschfeld, has said "our family was literally a prisoner to autism."

Jake's diagnosis was devastating to his parents. But even more difficult was the fact that physicians, educators and other professionals had little understanding of this complex disorder and what could be done to help children like Jacob. Stereotypes abounded.

One physician told the Hirschfeld's that Jake had no better than a one in ten chance of living outside of institutional care. Jake's mother, Nancy, recalls that "one preschool initially turned away our son because of their fear of autism, but once they began to see Jake as a person who had unique gifts as well as challenges they accepted him."

Thankfully, the Hirschfeld family persevered and sought services to help their son. Their search led them to engage an intensive early intervention therapy called Applied Behavior Analysis, or ABA. This therapy has been available for over twenty years, and was recently featured on NBC Nightly News and ABC's Primetime Live. It is one of the treatments that can significantly reduce the symptoms of autism. Because the cause or causes of autism have yet to be identified, early intervention is the best course available for parents today.

Unfortunately, these services are not universally supported by public or private insurance, so families like the Hirschfeld's pay up to \$60,000 per year to help their children. In the State of Nebraska, there are now organizations who offer these services, including the Families for Effective Autism Treatment, or FEAT. Although FEAT now serves over 20 families in Eastern Nebraska, countless other families nationwide cannot access this treatment because of its prohibitive cost.

But the tremendous investment can pay great dividends. Jacob Hirschfeld could once barely speak, but he was recently one of the stars in an Easter musical at his school. He was once scared of most people, but is now regularly seen riding his bike around the neighborhood, greeting neighbors and playing with friends. And yes, he plays a pretty decent game of baseball. Jake has come a long way, but he will continue to need services to help him along his journey, just as many autistic children in America need support and care.

Early intervention has also made a difference in the lives of Patrick and Jean McDermott, and their son, Grant, who was diagnosed with autism when he was 22 months old.

Grant's mother Jean said "it was devastating to hear the words 'diagnosis of autism' as parents of this beautiful child. My husband and I wondered what his future would hold. After the initial shock, we started researching what we could do to give him a brighter future."

The McDermott's also chose the ADA early intervention therapy. Therapists worked with Grant about 35 hours a week, teaching him basic and then more advanced skills. Grant is now in regular school with no aides, and will be going to kindergarten this Fall. His future is looking bright and the McDermott's believe he will live a full life, but it will always be a challenge having an autistic son until a cure can be found.

Autism now affects 1 out of every 166 children in the United States. Boys are four times more likely to have autism than girls. This developmental disorder robs individuals of their ability to communicate and interact with others. Some autistic children seem barely able to distinguish their parents from strangers.

The costs of caring for autistic individuals is high financially as well as emotionally. Nationwide, an estimated \$90 billion is spent every year. Specialized treatment in developmental centers costs about \$80,000 per child, and special education programs cost about

\$30,000 per autistic child. Services are needed to help reduce these burdens on families and society.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great need for increased public awareness about autism, and more aggressive research into this disorder to help American families like the Hirschfeld's and the McDermott's. I am proud to be a co-sponsor of H. Res. 605, and urge my colleagues to join me in wholeheartedly voting for its passage today.

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE  
SENSE OF THE HOUSE THAT  
THERE IS A NEED FOR IN-  
CREASED EDUCATION AND  
AWARENESS ABOUT HEPATITIS C

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, May has been designated as Hepatitis Awareness month. In light of that, I rise today to highlight one type of Hepatitis that is an important health issue facing our country—the Hepatitis C virus. Hepatitis C is now the most common bloodborne infection in the United States infecting an estimated 2.7 million Americans and more than 32,000 in my home State of New Mexico alone. Further exacerbating the situation is the fact that it is estimated that less than 5 percent of individuals with Hepatitis C are receiving treatment. These statistics alone underscore the critical need to increase education and awareness about this virus. Today I am introducing a resolution that calls for exactly that.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to the figures I mentioned above, it is also worth noting that approximately 80 percent of those infected with Hepatitis C develop chronic liver disease with an increased risk for development of cirrhosis and liver cancer. In fact, in the United States Hepatitis C is estimated to be the cause of 40 percent to 60 percent of cases of chronic liver disease and 8,000 to 10,000 deaths annually.

One population in our society for whom Hepatitis C is a particular concern is our veterans. A study released in July 2003 measured the prevalence of Hepatitis C in a sample of veterans treated in a homeless veterans program in Massachusetts over a five-year period. The study found an overall prevalence rate of HCV infection of 44 percent, a rate more than 10 times higher than the national rate for men age 20–59. According to the study, adjusting for age, significant risk factors in the sample included a history of substance abuse and service during the Vietnam era. However, this is by no means the only at-risk population.

Native Americans are another segment of our population who are experiencing the destructive effects of the Hepatitis C virus. Although Native Americans experience infection rates on average with other populations, because of other obstacles to accessing care and accessing quality care, they are experiencing much higher death rates and years of life lost as a result of chronic liver disease.

Mr. Speaker, these are but two examples of specific demographic groups dealing with the realities of the Hepatitis C virus. But as indi-

cated by the number of Americans infected with this virus it is clearly a much more widespread concern. As a nation we must begin confronting the rising human and economic costs of this virus. And we in Congress must begin confronting the policy choices we need to make to stem these costs. Passing this resolution will be an important step in this process.

EXPRESSING CONCERN OF CON-  
GRESS OVER IRAN'S DEVELOP-  
MENT OF MEANS TO PRODUCE  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS

SPEECH OF

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 5, 2004*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I abhor nuclear weapons and would like nothing better than to see the world free of these weapons. I believe that Iran is a nation that we cannot trust. I also believe the House Concurrent Resolution rushed through Congress by the Republicans with little debate and even less clarity in intent is wrong, and I cannot support it.

The wording of the Iran Resolution reminds me of the blank check the President got for Iraq. Here's what I mean. The relevant portion of Section 2 of the Iran Resolution says: "... to use all appropriate means to deter, dissuade and prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. . . ." We must not make the same mistake twice. We need to deal with Iran. We need to deal with nuclear weapons programs, but this is not the way to do it.

REMARKS BY THE HONORABLE  
DAVE OBEY

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to submit the humble, humorous and insightful remarks of my dear friend and Dean of the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation, the Honorable DAVE OBEY. The gentleman was the honored guest recently at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Department of Political Science as it celebrated its Centennial. I was given a copy of his remarks and was captivated. Written with his characteristic no nonsense Wisconsin affect, this wonderful speech is a treasure to be shared. To that end, I submit it for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I came to Madison in 1958—after two years at the UW-Marathon County Center in Wausau—to get a poly-sci degree.

Arthur Henderson, my high school history teacher, who had worked with the great William Hesse, told me that I should seek out Ralph Huitt as my faculty advisor and take as many courses from him as possible if I wanted to understand how government and politics really worked. That's exactly what I did.

I had many other fabulous professors: Leon Epstein, Bernie Cohen, Fred von der Mehden, David Fellman, John Armstrong, Henry Hart, to name a few.

And in the history and econ departments, people like: Selig Perlman, Michael Petrovich, George Mosse, David Granick.

It's amazing to me how much of what they taught me has had direct relevance in my later life. I treasure what I learned here—in and out of class—and I treasure the memories.

I attended here at the same time as Bill Steiger, who later was my Republican opposite image in Congress and one of the finest politicians I have ever known. Bill was elected to the State Assembly in 1960; I followed him in 1962. He was elected to Congress in 1966; I followed 27 months later. But in the late 1950s, we were both still here and had two classes together.

One was Constitutional law with Dave Fellman. For those of you who do not know Fellman, his style was much like the law professor played by John Housman in the TV series "Paper Chase"—dry and acerbic.

Steiger was "Big Man on Campus." His father, Carl Steiger, was President of the Board of Regents, and Bill was well known and active in everything. On the first day of class, Steiger walked into Fellman's class about 5 minutes late. Chagrined, he walked gingerly to his seat. Fellman paused, peered at Steiger over his glasses, and said icily, "Please pardon me, Mr. Steiger. Ordinarily we would have an usher escort you to your seat. Unfortunately, our carnations have not yet arrived." Bill turned blood red. No one in that class was late after that.

I remember in 1960 the first time I met Jack Kennedy. Kennedy and Hubert Humphrey were running against each other in the Wisconsin presidential primary. I was running Humphrey's campaign on campus.

One evening I was chairing a meeting in the student union. We knew Jackie Kennedy was upstairs at a fashion show, but we didn't know that Jack was with her. Halfway through our meeting, the door to our room opened and Kennedy poked his head in. "I understand this is a meeting of the Young Democrats he said." "Not quite," I responded, "this is a meeting of the Humphrey for President club." "Well, do you mind if I come in and say hello?" he asked. "Of course not," I responded. Kennedy came in, shook hands around the table, wished us luck but not too much, and moved on.

That same year I met Jackie Robinson and wound up wanting to strangle him. Gaylord Nelson, the new Governor, called me one afternoon. Nelson was officially neutral, but personally favored Humphrey over Kennedy. When he called me, he said, "Dave, Jackie Robinson is coming to town to endorse Hubert. Get a room at the union, build a crowd, and you can introduce us."

We had a huge crowd for him. I emceed the meeting and introduced Gaylord, who introduced Robinson. Robinson gave a ringing endorsement of Humphrey and then opened up to questions. The first question from the press was, "Mr. Robinson, you have endorsed Senator Humphrey, but what if he loses to Senator Kennedy in the primary?" Robinson said, "Why then I'll endorse Nixon." The crowd gasped and the press ran for the phones to call their papers. What was supposed to be a good day for Humphrey turned into an even better one for Nixon.

As you know, Kennedy did win the nomination and squared off against Nixon. The last week of the election it was announced that Nixon's plane would touch down for an early Saturday morning rally at Truax field on the way to California. Bill Whitford, Tom Eckerle, and I decided we wanted to crash the rally. We went down to GOP headquarters and wheedled a bunch of Nixon Lodge signs (Nixon's running mate that year was Henry Cabot Lodge). We cut Lodge's name off the bottom of the sign, moved it to

the top, added the letters "D-I-S" in front of Lodge's name so the signs read "Dislodge Nixon" and sounded a small dissent at the rally the next morning.

After the election we needed the help of the faculty to get one of our friends out of trouble. In 1961 the Republican Leadership in the Legislature called upon Governor Nelson to fire his Secretary, Esther Kaplan, after she had circulated a petition calling for the abolition of the House Un-American Activities Committee. The Republican Leadership introduced a resolution praising HUAC and held a Nelson bashing hearing on it in the State Assembly Chambers. My friend, Dave Sheridan, was so angered by the resolution that he put on his ROTC uniform, walked down to the Capitol, and testified against the resolution.

"I know that you are claiming that anyone opposed to HUAC is either a traitor or a communist dupe," Sheridan said. "I'm wearing this uniform to demonstrate that while I may be a dupe, I'm certainly no traitor." The Republican Leadership was enraged and moved to have Sheridan thrown out of the ROTC program because he had worn his uniform to testify—in violation of Army rules.

A number of Dave's friends on the faculty went to Ralph Huitt and several others to get some advice on how to save Sheridan's hide. Huitt (or someone else on the faculty) called Carlisle Runge a UW law professor who had been named a high Pentagon post by Kennedy, and got Sheridan off with a reprimand. Years later it was to be my great pleasure to cast a vote that disbanded HUAC.

And there were some other pleasures. In his course on legislation, Huitt scheduled a Mock Senate, role playing exercise one weekend in the State Assembly Chambers at the Capitol. Each student was assigned to play an individual, real life U.S. Senator. Fittingly, Bill Steiger was assigned to play Everett Dirksen, the Republican Floor Leader. I was assigned to play Senator William Fullbright. It was my task to try to push a foreign aid bill through the Senate. I had no idea that 25 years later I would Chair the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, which had the responsibility to handle all foreign aid appropriations.

And there were so many other links in the chain.

A large part of that Foreign Operations Committee responsibility would be to shape development aid to the Third World, the region that was the focus of Fred von der Mehden's and Henry Hart's courses on Third World politics.

Another strong focus for the committee was the Middle East. Next to the Soviet Union, my main regional interest in Congress has been the Middle East. That interest was first triggered by series of debates that two faculty members at the UW-Marathon County Center, Dr. Sam Weiner and Dr. Bob Najem, had conducted after the 1956 Middle East war.

Of course, I knew nothing of those future linkages then. Certainly, in graduate school under John Armstrong where I focused on Russian area studies and expected to wind up teaching Russian government somewhere, I had no idea that 30 years later I would be partnering with Indiana Congressman Lee Hamilton to shepherd through Congress aid packages for Russia and Eastern Europe after Gorbachev allowed the Soviet block to crumble, virtually without a shot.

I'm grateful for all those memories and for the substantive grounding the University gave me to prepare me for my congressional responsibilities. But the grounding I received from the University was not just because of the courses I took. It was also because of the spirit, the philosophy, the progressive mindset that defined the University and set it off

as something special in the American experience.

You simply cannot live in Wisconsin and go to the University of Wisconsin without recognizing the centrality of the La Follette progressive tradition that is at the heart of Wisconsin history, and the linkage the University has with that tradition.

The greatest public servant Wisconsin ever produced was Robert La Follette. Before La Follette led his Progressive revolution, Wisconsin's politics was owned lock, stock, and barrel by the railroads, the mining companies, and the timber interests. Government was geared to promote the welfare of those engaged in the production of wealth. The interest of the working class was an after thought. La Follette changed all that—aided and abetted by the University. La Follette changed the focus of Wisconsin government from enriching the few at the expense of the many to enriching the few by enriching the many. In short, he was Hubert Humphrey before Hubert Humphrey.

The original Wisconsin practitioner of the art of "Percolate Up" rather than "Trickle Down" economics, La Follette's mission and passion was to keep the big boys honest in order to include everybody in the circle of prosperity and progress. He was the Andrew Jackson of his time and place.

He understood that America is a capitalist economy, but it is also more than just an economy; it is democracy. And as a democracy, it is supposed to stand for the greatest good for the greatest number, even as it respects the rights of the individual.

He understood that capitalism works through market forces that cannot be repealed, but that democracy is not just "Of, By, and For the Markets." It is designed to be "Of, By and For the People!" He believed that Darwin's law of the survival of the fittest might be good enough for the animal world, but not good enough for the world of man. He wanted balanced capitalism, not a new feudalism in disguise. And he intended to use the tools of government to achieve it. And he used the resources of the University to help him in his task.

Helped by scholars, such as Frederick Jackson Turner, Richard Ely, and John R. Commons, he began the process by writing legislation to loosen the stranglehold of the railroads on Wisconsin's farmers and economy. What La Follette began, before he moved to the U.S. Senate, reached its zenith under Governor Francis McGovern.

The legendary Charles McCarthy, a University product, created Wisconsin's pioneering Legislative Reference Bureau. He and more than 40 other University figures were at the center of pioneering progressive achievements—

Achievements like: The nation's first workers' compensation program, workers' safety legislation, a State Industrial Commission, limits on the hours of work for women and children, forest protection legislation, the nation's first progressive income tax, and so many others.

In his autobiography La Follette explained his passion for economic justice and the role the University played in nurturing and furthering it. In that autobiography, a Follette wrote the following. "I shall never forget the speech I heard the old Chief Justice of Wisconsin, Edward G. Ryan, make to the graduating class at Madison in June of 1883 just before I entered the University," La Follette said:

"There is looming up a new and dark power . . . the enterprises of the country are aggregating vast corporate combinations of unexampled capital, boldly marching not for economic conquest only, but for political power. For the first time really in our politics money is taking the field as an organized power . . . The question will arise in

your day . . . which shall rule—wealth or man; which shall lead—money or intellect; who shall fill public stations—education and patriotic free men or the feudal serfs of corporate capital?"

La Follette then goes on to say that that speech kindled in him the spirit he carried throughout his public service. As La Follette described it, "It grew out of the intellectual awakening . . . the very center and inspiration point of which in Wisconsin was then, and has been ever since, the University at Madison. It is difficult indeed to overestimate the part which the University has played in the Wisconsin revolution," La Follette said. "For myself," he said, "I owe what I am and what I have done largely to the inspiration I received while there. It was not so much the actual courses of study which I pursued; it was rather the spirit of the institution—a high spirit of earnest endeavor, a spirit of fresh interest in new things, and beyond all else, a sense that somehow the state and the University were intimately related and that they should be of mutual service."

La Follette's attachment to the University was understandable and fitting. He was the first graduate of the University to become Governor. The legendary Charles Van Hise was a member of that same graduating class—the first person to obtain a PhD from the University, he was later effectively appointed University President by La Follette.

And I must say that it was that same sense of the spirit of the institution, so intimately connected to Wisconsin's progressive traditions, which sparked my passion for public service.

What I learned here that inspired me is that while La Follette and other Progressive Reformers like George Norris and Theodore Roosevelt were regarded as secular men, they really were at the moral core of a movement that had deep roots in the Jewish Prophetic Tradition and the Christian Social Gospel, which implied that there were certain norms of decency that must be the objectives of political choices in a democracy.

That tradition was rooted in the belief that politics must be more than merely transactional. It must be more principled than "who gets what." That it could and should be, as Bill Moyers has said, transformational—that it must try to "even the starting gate so that people who are equal in humanity but not in resources have a reasonable opportunity to pursue a full and decent life."

The Wisconsin tradition dictates that political leadership must challenge people to see beyond their own self-interests and prerogatives. That is why whenever anyone comes into my office asking me to do something, I first ask them to read aloud a sign hanging on the wall which asks, "What do you want me to do for someone besides yourself that is more important than whatever it is you want me to do for you?" If you cannot answer that question you are failing the ultimate test of good citizenship in a democracy.

For the past 40 years, in the Legislature and the Congress, I have tried to pursue that special Wisconsin vision of the role of government in shaping a more just society. Wisconsin has so often in its history been informed by a special sense of commonwealth—of using our common wealth to invest in efforts to spread the blessings of society more broadly.

I wish I could say that we are still following that special calling today, but we have drifted away in so many ways. Over much of the last three decades we have seen the country retreat from those ideals. Anna Quindlen has written that "America is a country that now sits atop the precarious latticework of myth. It is the myth that

work provides sufficient rewards, that working people can support their families. It's a myth that has become so divorced from reality that it might as well begin with the words "Once upon a time." Why does Quindlen say that? Because one out of every four American workers makes less than \$8.70 an hour—poverty level for a family of four.

La Follette and the past greats of the University would be stunned to see that in one generation America has gone from being the industrial society with the smallest gap between rich and poor to the one with the largest.

They would be astounded to see that the safety net, which they fought so hard to construct, has not been nearly strong enough for large portions of our population.

They would be appalled that the number of Americans without health insurance has grown by 4 million people in less than a decade.

They would see shame in the fact that the most well off 1 percent of America's families enjoy control over 33 percent of the nation's wealth while the bottom 50 percent struggle to maintain 2.8 percent of the nation's wealth.

They would be dismayed to see how little heed has been paid to the warning of Adam Smith, the founding high priest of capitalism, that without fair rules of the game to keep markets honest that capitalism could be misaligned into a system that provided insufficient protection for the legitimate interests of workers and consumers alike.

They would find it unbelievable that the percentage of American workers who belong to unions has contracted rather than expanded over the last half century.

They would be outraged that the ownership of news outlets is much more heavily concentrated today than it was in their era.

They would not be surprised, but they would be repelled by a tax system that provides greater rewards for accumulated wealth than it does for work.

And most of all, La Follette himself would be disheartened by the growing financial barriers to opportunity that are encountered by the children of so many working families who seek to attend this very University.

La Follette himself is Wisconsin's most distinguished example of how crucial it can be to eliminate financial barriers to higher education. In his autobiography, La Follette made the following observation:

"My single term at the University law school had been rendered possible only through the consideration of the faculty in making an extraordinary exception in my case and permitting me to enter without paying the usual matriculation fee. I had no money . . ."

How little we have learned, despite all the blather uttered by both political parties about how much we have expanded opportunity for higher education. UW Chancellor John Wiley observed in a speech last November that the median family income in Wisconsin is a little over \$45,000, but the median family income for this year's new freshman at Madison is \$90,000. Think about that for a moment. As Wiley pointed out, "The distribution of brains, talent, ambition, and creativity is independent of family income. We will ignore that fact and freeze out the children of average and low income families at our peril."

Now tie that to another fact. Pell Grants, the principal student aid program for low income students, now pay for only one-half of the cost of instruction that they paid for in 1976. I feel acutely about this because I'm the Ranking Democrat on the Appropriations Committee and the Subcommittee that funds all education programs. Next, add in

another fact. More than half of all college graduates graduate with debts above \$15,000.

If La Follette were planning to go to law school today, he couldn't afford it. How many La Follettes or Gaylord Nelsons or Bill Steigers are we today passing over?

What would he and the University greats of old say about a government which, when struggling with a \$500 billion deficit, a huge Social Security deficit, record long-term unemployment, and 44 million people without health insurance, decides that the number one priority in the budget next year is to provide a \$155,000 tax cut to someone making a million dollars while we short fund elementary and secondary education by \$9 billion and continue to tolerate a two-tier system for access to higher education or quality health care.

We all love this country. In spite of all its short comings, this is a great country. But shame on us for allowing such an outcome. We must do better.

I thank the University—and you should, too—for its tradition of producing graduates and citizens who are never satisfied, for it's tradition of saying "We can do better!" For the sake of the kind of country we want America to be, let's all do our part to live up to that tradition.

Now, I'm sure that some of you may strongly disagree with the thrust of what I have said today. That's o.k. As Will Rogers observed, "If two people agree on everything, one of them is unnecessary." That difference would probably be rooted in the fact that we follow different philosophers. Some of you may follow Plato or Aristotle or even Ayn Rand, God Forbid. But my favorite philosopher is Arch the Cockroach.

Archy was a character invented by a writer by the name of Don Marquis in the 1920s. He was supposedly a poet who had died and had come back to life in a body of a cockroach. He lived in a newspaperman's office and every night would crawl out of the woodwork, climb onto the typewriter, dive head first on the keys, and leave little messages which would appear in the newspaper the next day. He had a thought for every occasion. One of the things he said was this:

"did you ever notice that when a politician does get an idea he usually gets it all wrong"

But my favorite was this:  
"im too small to feel great pride and as the pompous world goes by i see things from the under side"

Like Archy, I try to see life from the underside. I make no apology. I learned it here!

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COL. LORRIS  
WILLIAM MOOMAW

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of Colonel Lorris "Bill" Moomaw who recently passed away. Bill was a true American hero and patriot, and a beloved friend and colleague to many in his community. In his years spent in the armed forces, Bill embodied the ideals of integrity

and courage that we, as Americans, have come to expect from our military personnel. As his family and community mourn his passing, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the life of this exceptional man, and his many contributions to his community, state and country.

Bill lived an immensely rich and full life, always holding firm to his beliefs in serving his community and country. In 1935, he graduated from flying school at Randolph Field, Texas, and began flying commercial flights until the onset of World War II. During the war, Bill flew numerous transport missions, serving as the Operations officer of the first regularly scheduled Military Air Transport runs. In 1945, he served as Operations officer for a dangerous and important transport operation between India and China known as "The Hump," and his unit received over nine hundred citations, and became the only non-combat unit to receive a Presidential unit citation. As the war ended, he was assigned to finding and removing American POW's from South East Asia, Singapore, and Indonesia, frequently flying into unsecured areas occupied with hostile forces.

At the end of the war, Bill was offered and accepted a regular commission and was transferred to Washington where he served as military aide and pilot to the first two Secretaries of the Air Force. His flights included piloting such dignitaries as Presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower and Johnson, and taking Bob Hope and other Hollywood celebrities on Christmas trips to entertain our troops.

Mr. Speaker, we are all at a great loss because of Colonel Lorris Moomaw's passing, but can be comforted in knowing his service to our nation helped secure the freedoms we enjoy today. I am honored to pay tribute to the life and memory of Colonel Lorris William Moomaw before this body of Congress and this nation. My thoughts are with his loved ones during this difficult time of bereavement.

#### HONORING ADELE GILMORE

### HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a woman who will be missed by all who knew her. It brings me great sadness to report that Adele Gilmore of Sunrise, Florida, passed away on April 27th, at the age of 86. Ms. Gilmore championed her community through her deep conviction to philanthropic endeavors and public service. Her tremendous strength of character will be remembered by her friends, family, and colleagues.

Hardworking and driven, Ms. Gilmore was a former vice president of Nathan's Famous restaurant. She was hired to work at Nathan's by Murray Handwerker, the son of Nathan's founder Nathan Handwerker.

Ms. Gilmore founded the Nob Hill Chapter of the City of Hope, a research organization aimed at finding cures for cancer, AIDS, and other life-threatening diseases. Ms. Gilmore got involved in the City of Hope after losing her son, Mark, to AIDS. The Nob Hill Chapter of City of Hope has raised over \$2 million since 1987, and Ms. Gilmore's efforts at the group's annual Christmas gift wrapping drive at the Sawgrass Mills Mall helped generate that success.

Ms. Gilmore was also an active member of the Broward Democratic Executive Committee, as well as an officer and director of the Sunrise Regular Democratic Club. In addition, she found time to become involved in the political campaigns of former President Bill Clinton and former Vice President Al Gore.

Mr. Speaker, Adele Gilmore was both well-loved and widely respected by all those blessed to have known her. She is survived by her sister Evelyn, her sons David and Peter, her grandchildren Joshua, Benjamin, Maghan, and Fir, and one great-grandchild. Today we celebrate Adele's life, which serves as a wonderful example to all who follow in her footsteps.

#### RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN JOHN TIPTON

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Captain John Tipton who was recently killed in Iraq.

Capt. Tipton, 32, a 1989 Granite City High School graduate, died this past Sunday in an explosion during combat in the Al Anbar Province in Iraq. The province, west of Baghdad, is where Camp Fallujah is located and is one of the most hostile regions in Iraq. Capt. Tipton was commander of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division out of Fort Riley. He was stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas with his wife, Susie Tipton, of Collinsville, and their two children, Austin, 4, and Kaitlyn, 2.

I am proud of the service Capt. Tipton has given to our country and the service he and others provide on a daily basis. Not enough can be said about the sacrifice and dedication these men and women display while serving in Iraq. It is troops like Capt. Tipton, those risking their lives everyday, that ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my heart felt condolences go out to his family and all the troops continually fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

#### UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON PROGRAM TO PREVENT OBESITY

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we have an epidemic of obesity in America, threatening to become the single most pressing public health issue before us within one year. I would like to commend the outstanding work being done at the University of Houston in my district, where they have recently created the Institute for Obesity Prevention and Urban Fitness.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2000, 31 percent of U.S. adults aged 20 years and older—nearly 59 million people—were obese. And the problem is getting steadily worse. In 2003 obesity was responsible for 16.6 percent of prevent-

able deaths in America, preceded only by tobacco which is responsible for about 430,000 deaths a year. Recent research suggests that obesity will become the leading cause of death by 2005, claiming more than 500,000 lives.

In addition to the enormous human toll, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease estimates that the economic burden of those being overweight or obese in the United States totals approximately \$117 billion a year.

Realizing the serious need to address this nationwide epidemic, the Department of Health and Human Performance in the University of Houston's College of Education has begun development of the Institute for Obesity Prevention and Urban Fitness. The center will conduct clinical research, educational programs, and outreach to serve the UH student body and the demographically diverse underserved community surrounding the UH campus. In partnership with the Biomedical Engineering Group at the University of Houston, the institute will search for biomarkers to predict obesity risk and treatment outcomes. This unique, new institute gives the University of Houston a leading role in national obesity research.

I commend the University of Houston for creating a center whose studies will provide a model for the nation and whose research will benefit millions of Americans in the midst of a health crisis.

#### HONORING MR. STEWART UDALL

### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Stewart Udall who has served our country in many ways—for six years as a Member of the House of Representatives, nine years as Secretary of Interior, and countless years as an environmental activist, scholar, historian, and citizen of the outdoors. However, it is for a unique contribution to the preservation of our natural resources that I am here today; as Secretary of the Interior in 1962, Stewart Udall was instrumental in the creation of Point Reyes National Seashore in my district in Marin County, California.

Point Reyes National Seashore is truly a treasure for the nation. Conceived as a park in the 1930s, the hard work of dedicated people finally made the Seashore a reality during Stewart Udall's tenure. The park is enjoyed by over 2.5 million visitors annually and ranks among the top twenty most-visited National Parks in the country. Comprising over 71,000 acres of estuaries, beaches, coastal grasslands, salt marshes, and coniferous forests, Point Reyes National Seashore is home to 45% of North American avian species, 18% of California's plant species, and hundreds of migrating whales.

Its rich cultural history, dating back 5000 years to Miwok settlements, includes the landing of Sir Francis Drake in 1579 and the development of early 19th century Mexican land grants which are the precursors of modern ranches in the pastoral zones. The Seashore today successfully balances the needs of visitors and ranchers with the preservation of ecosystems and historical sites.



Upon his appointment as Secretary of the Interior by President John F. Kennedy, Stewart Udall exhibited the visionary leadership that preserved the natural and cultural heritage of Point Reyes National Seashore as well as other important seashores and lakeshores in the National Park System. He declared that "few areas in government leave a more abiding and visible mark on our land and our individual future than what is done or not done by the Department of Interior. Our success will be measured by the scars of neglect that are removed and the creative programs we realize in improving this great land of ours."

As an Arizona native, Secretary Udall brought to the Kennedy and Johnson administrations a unique understanding of the value of the ecosystems of the western United States. His Cabinet career resulted in The Wilderness Bill, The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and the creation of four new national parks, six national monuments, eight seashores and lakeshores, nine recreation areas, twenty historic sites, and 56 wildlife refuges.

Continuing his exploration of Western issues, Secretary Udall has documented the history of much of the region in several books, most recently, *The Forgotten Founders: Rethinking the History of the Old West*. This book brings to life the stories of actual people who settled the land, dispelling the myth of the predominance of handsome, six-gun-toting cowboys.

Mr. Speaker, Stewart Udall's vision, dedication, and leadership exemplify the best in public service. In his own words, "In the long run the best politics is a job well done."

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NEIL KENNETH BURRASTON

##### HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Mr. Neil Burraston, a Principal Consultant in the California State Legislature who recently passed away.

For more than 30 years, Burraston helped advance the political careers of countless California legislators by providing them with invaluable advice and unmatched policymaking expertise. More importantly, the numerous policies he helped draft on workers compensation, have improved the lives of millions of working families in California.

After a stellar administrative career in the New York State Legislature, Neil began his career with the California State Legislature in 1972 as an Administrative Analyst in both the Legislative Analyst's Office and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. His mastery of state government policy-making was recognized by his colleagues in 1984, when he was promoted to Senior Consultant for the Senate Committee on Industrial Relations and later to Principal Consultant in 1993. When I was Chair of the Senate Industrial Relations Committee in the late 1990s, Burraston's expertise and advice helped me to make informed decisions about issues before the committee.

A near-fatal illness provided Burraston with renewed insight into the value and purpose of

life and the impact one can have on others outside the family. As an active member in his community, he advocated to end alcohol abuse among families and vulnerable children. As President of the National Council on Alcoholism, he helped organize the National Association of Adult Children of Alcoholics and sponsored youth support groups for young people who wished to live a life free of alcohol abuse.

Born in Payson, Utah on 1938, Burraston earned his bachelor's and master's degree in political studies from Brigham Young University. A devout Mormon and an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Burraston suffered a heart attack while serving on a Latter-day Saint mission and died on February 28, 2004, in San Antonio, Texas. He leaves behind his loving wife, Amanda, five children, 16 grandchildren and two siblings.

Neil Burraston will always be known for his contributions to the State of California, its Legislature, and its people. His work will always be a model for other consultants and legislators to learn and emulate. Although we will miss Neil dearly, his life and legacy will live in our hearts forever.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO MIKE BLOSS

##### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad heart that I rise to pay tribute to the passing of a selfless servant from my district. Mike Bloss, a native of Winter Park, Colorado, was recently killed while serving our country in Iraq as a contract security specialist. A beloved figure in his community, Mike dedicated his efforts to teaching students with disabilities how to ski and mountain bike. As his family and community mourn his passing, I believe it appropriate to bring his contributions to his community, state, and country to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation.

Mike was a retired Welsh special forces officer who began as a volunteer at the National Sports Center for the Disabled in Winter Park. As he gained more experience through various instruction certification programs, he turned the volunteering opportunity into a seasonal job. Mike was a fond employee of the organization who demonstrated great understanding for the needs of skiers with disabilities, having suffered a foot injury himself from a fall he took while he was in the military. As an additional source of income and for the chance of an adventure, Mike took on contract jobs with a Virginia firm that specialized in high-risk private security.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Bloss was a dedicated man who selflessly served his community and country, and I am honored to recognize his sacrifice before this body of Congress and this nation. His lifetime of service is an incredible model for America's youth. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family during this difficult time of bereavement.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL BESCHLOSS, 2004 RECIPIENT OF THE HARRY S TRUMAN AWARD FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

##### HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Michael R. Beschloss, who is receiving the 2004 Harry S Truman Award for Public Service from the City of Independence at the Truman Presidential Museum and Library on May 7, 2004. After President Truman's death on December 26, 1972, the City of Independence established this award to honor an outstanding individual who possesses the qualities of Harry S Truman. Since 1974, the annual award has honored individuals who have demonstrated "dedication, industry, ability, honesty and integrity" in their significant contributions to our country.

This year's recipient is the award winning historian and highly acclaimed author, Michael Beschloss. Last year, Beschloss generously agreed to be the keynote speaker for the Truman Presidential Library and Museum "Wild About Harry" fundraiser. Mr. Beschloss received rave reviews, as he captivated the audience with his humor and knowledge of presidential history. In his presentation, Mr. Beschloss said, "There is library so much on the cutting edge of what a library should do than the Truman Library." Mr. Beschloss's participation was the laudable attraction that generated the funds to ensure the expansion of educational programs and exhibits at the Truman Library. With seven books to his credit, Newsweek has called him "the nation's leading Presidential historian," and he has found a number of venues to pursue his career. As a respected author, essayist, editor, and television commentator, he continually lends an insightful eye to his informative and authoritative commentary and analysis of current and historic events in American culture. Beschloss has taken us behind the scenes in his research of many of the presidents since Roosevelt.

Like President Harry S Truman, Michael Beschloss found common ground in the belief that men are driven by history. President Truman stated, "It takes men to make history, or there would be no history. History does not make the man." Michael Beschloss has traditionally examined the inner workings of the presidency and political events throughout his publications and media appearances. His research has led him to explore presidential decision making and pinpoint administrative paradigm shifts in his analysis of new directions and he has explained their impact on domestic and foreign affairs.

President Truman said, "My debt to history is one which cannot be calculated. I know of no other motivation which so accounts for my awakening interest as a young lad in the principles of leadership and government." Michael Beschloss has examined the principles and actions of our nation's leaders and his writing is distinguished with analysis and illumination of the political process. For the past twenty years, he has articulated the deeper layers of thought and action that color the American political process, and he has earned the status as one of the most trusted experts on Presidents and the election process.

It was Mr. Beschloss's senior honors thesis at Williams College that launched his writing career. The writing project evolved into his first book, *Kennedy and Roosevelt: The Uneasy Alliance*, published in 1980. *May Day: Eisenhower, Khrushchev and the U-2 Affair* followed in 1986. *The Crisis Years: Kennedy and Khrushchev, 1960-1963*, published in 1991, won the Ambassador Book Prize. In 1993, Mr. Beschloss co-wrote *At the Highest Levels: The Inside Story of the End of the Cold War*. He has written two volumes of a trilogy on the Lyndon B. Johnson presidency, published in 1997 and 2001: *Taking Charge and Reaching for Glory*. Both are based on President Johnson's secret White House tapes and have been received with high praise. Research at the Truman Presidential Museum and Library provided material for his seventh book, a best seller, *The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman and the Destruction of Hitler's Germany, 1941-1945*. His insights into the influences on presidential staff debates throughout the war, including what to do with Germany at war's end, have received critical acclaim.

In addition to his best selling book career, Michael Beschloss is a trustee of the White House Historical Association, the National Archives Foundation, the Thomas Jefferson Foundation, the Urban Institute, and the University of Virginia's Miller Center of Public Affairs. He has cultivated his talent and expertise through his experiences at Williams College and Harvard University, his service on the staff of the Smithsonian from 1982-1986, as a Senior Associate at Oxford University, 1986-87, and as a Senior Fellow at the Annenberg Foundation, 1988-96. Mr. Beschloss can be seen on PBS's *The News Hour* and is a consultant to ABC News.

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate Michael Beschloss on his distinguished career and his many contributions to greater understanding of American culture through his research and analysis. I am proud that the City of Independence has selected him for recognition this year. He is most deserving of this honor. He shares President Truman's belief that an understanding of history is essential to leadership in world affairs. Mr. Speaker, please join me in warm congratulations to Michael R. Beschloss, this year's recipient of the 2004 Harry S Truman Award for Public Service, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the evaluation and preservation of history. I applaud his contribution to the Truman Library and Museum and to our world.

REGARDING CO-SPONSORSHIP OF  
H.R. 4061

### **HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in regards to H.R. 4061, the Assistance for Orphans and Vulnerable Children Act of 2004, which passed the House International Relations Committee by unanimous consent on March 31st.

Last night the International Relations Committee filed House Report 108-479.

Because House rules prohibit the addition of additional co-sponsors to a bill once the committee report has been filed, I was not able to

formally add seven Members of Congress as co-sponsors of this legislation.

I ask that the RECORD show that Mr. INSLEE of Washington, Mr. SOUDER of Indiana, Mr. OSBORNE of Nebraska, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. MAJETTE of Georgia, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. HUNTER of California are in support of my bill and should be considered by this body as cosponsors of H.R. 4061.

### **CONGRATULATING CHRIS MAZZINO AS TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

#### **HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor teacher Chris Mazzino as he is awarded the Milken Family Foundation's National Educator Award.

I ask that my colleagues pay tribute to this English teacher from West Scranton High School as he receives this tremendous recognition from the Milken Foundation during Teacher Appreciation Week.

Teachers are our nation's unsung heroes. The number of young lives touched by teachers is countless, and Mr. Mazzino exemplifies the best in his profession by encouraging his students to achieve far beyond the reach of what they thought possible. Mr. Mazzino's creative writing class published a book entitled "26 Odd: Creative Works by Creative Writers."

In addition, Mr. Mazzino diligently works with students throughout the entire school to help increase their scores on Pennsylvania's state accountability test. As a result of Mr. Mazzino's efforts, West Scranton High School's reading and writing test scores have improved significantly.

Mr. Mazzino also demonstrated his dedication by revamping the entire summer reading program at the West Scranton. I am proud to recognize the fact that Mr. Mazzino is the 37th teacher from our state to receive this award.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to represent a teacher who has dedicated his life to today's young people, who will indeed have a brighter future because of Mr. Mazzino.

### **RECOGNITION OF GARY WESTON**

#### **HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Gary Weston, who was recently killed in Kosovo.

Gary Weston was an employee of DynCorp International, which was serving with the United Nations as international police officers. Gary and other members were fired upon by a Jordanian police officer for unknown reason. Two fellow workers were killed in the resulting firefight. Gary was flown to a hospital after receiving several gunshots. He later died from complications of the gunshot wounds, his wife Nina Weston was there by her husband's side.

Gary Weston was 52 years old and lived in Vienna, Illinois. Not enough can be said about the great sacrifice this man made for his coun-

try, the ultimate sacrifice. He is survived by wife, Nina Weston; his mother, Christine Weston of Metropolis; a son, Richard N. Weston of Granite City; two daughters, Rachel A. Weston of Honolulu, Hawaii and Elizabeth E. Weston of Vienna; five grandchildren, Trey, Derek, Heather, Dalton and Parker; two brothers, Ben and wife Jan Weston of Vienna and Ed and wife Susan Weston of Cape Girardeau; a sister, Melinda and husband Ron White of Austin, Texas; and his mother-in-law, Marilyn Whiteside of Vienna. My thoughts and prayers go out to his families and loved ones. Gary Weston gave his life in an effort to improve the lives of others. This sacrifice should never be forgotten.

### **RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING AWARENESS OF AUTISM**

SPEECH OF

#### **HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 5, 2004*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution that will raise awareness of autism, one of the most mysterious, and challenging mental conditions that affects the American people. Autism affects 1 in 166 children today, and is thus the third most common developmental disability. Autism comes in a wide spectrum of intensities, ranging from mild personality quirks, to profound communication difficulties, to self-destructive behaviors, to utter dependence on care-givers.

This nation spends \$90 million per year caring for people with autism. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have estimated that as many as 1.5 million Americans have some form of autism, and the prevalence is skyrocketing. Based on statistics from the U.S. Department of Education and other government agencies, autism is growing at a rate of 10-17 percent per year. At these rates, the prevalence of autism in our country alone could reach 4 million in the next decade.

The cost of specialized treatment in a developmental center for people with autism is approximately \$80,000 per individual per year. The cost of special education programs for school-aged children with autism is often more than \$30,000 per individual per year. But the greatest burden of caring for the autistic falls on families of those with autism.

It is hard to even imagine what it would be like to be autistic or to care for an autistic family member. To give a bit of insight, I would like to share a personal story of one of my staff members, who has a 26-year-old autistic daughter named "Amy." Despite the fact that Amy is an adult, she is not able to use language to communicate her needs. She cannot communicate even simple messages such as that she has a stomach ache or that her room is too cold, and she gets extremely upset when she needs to communicate and is not able to do it.

This staffer shared a story that he said would probably sound familiar to any person who has lived with autistic individuals. Amy woke my staffer and his wife in the middle of the night one night with screams of rage and frustration. When they rushed into her bedroom, she took them to her bedroom window

and made frantic noises. They stood by helplessly for a long time, watching her distress, until they thought to look down at the deck below Amy's window. The floor mat on the deck had blown out of place. My staffer went out to the deck with a hammer and nails and nailed the mat to the floor of the deck so that it would stay where it was supposed to be. As he hammered the nails, he could hear Amy's happy laughter.

When he got back to bed, Amy was quiet. Her world was in order again.

It takes years to learn the needs of a child like Amy and how to care for her. Parents and siblings of those with autism, and teachers and social workers, do heroic work every day just to help the autistic lead more comfortable, though not normal, lives. They deserve our recognition and they deserve our support.

We need to recognize the importance of helping Amy and the many other autistic individuals in our country. We have to support programs for increased research and improved training and support to make their lives better. In the past, we have made bold statements, pledging federal support for the autistic, but we have not fulfilled those pledges.

For example, the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) of 1990 ensures a free and appropriate public education to children with diagnosed learning deficits. The 1991 version of the law extends these services to developmentally delayed preschoolers. IDEA calls for 40% of the funding for educating special education students to be provided by the federal government. To date, Congress appropriates less than 20 percent, or less than one half that was promised.

It is time to fulfill our promise to the autistic, their families, and our schools. I strongly support this resolution that will help raise awareness of autism, and encourage this Congress and this nation to help take care of those who need us.

# PAYING TRIBUTE TO KELLY ALLMON

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to recognize Kelly Allmon for her selfless dedication to the community of Cortez, Colorado, and congratulate her on being recognized by the Cortez Chamber of Commerce as their Citizen of the Year. The award is presented to an individual who has shown an outstanding commitment to the Cortez community, and Kelly could not be a more worthy recipient. It is a privilege to pay tribute to Kelly for her well-deserved award, and her ongoing efforts to better her community today.

In 2001, Kelly implemented the Retail Enhancement Program in Cortez, which works together with the Cortez Chamber of Commerce to market local businesses. During her tenure as director, the program has developed marketing campaigns such as the "Cortez Cash" program, and creating a community slogan, "Cortez: Genuine to the Core." In addition, the program works to provide workshops and seminars for local businesses. Kelly's hard work and dedication seem to be paying off, as Cortez has seen a marked increase in sales tax revenue over the last year.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Kelly Allmon before this body of Congress and this nation for the recognition she received as the Cortez Chamber of Commerce's Citizen of the Year. Her efforts to strengthen the business community in Cortez are truly remarkable, and her award is a well-deserved testament to her tireless efforts. I sincerely thank Kelly for her service, and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

# HONORING ROBERT HENRY OF SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Henry of Santa Rosa, California, who is retiring as the General Counsel for School and College Legal Services of California, a Joint Powers Authority which serves school and community college district clients throughout California.

Bob is widely recognized as one of the most experienced and accomplished education attorneys in the state. A frequent presenter at law school conferences and school organizations, he demonstrates in-depth knowledge of all aspects of the Education Code. He has argued school cases before state and federal trial, appellate, and supreme courts. Several times Bob successfully defended positions that others were afraid to take because he believed it was right. He has taken such cases to both the California Supreme Court and the Federal Court of Appeals and won. His courage and skill have saved the school districts untold dollars that were used to educate our children.

After graduating from U.C. Berkeley (Boalt Hall) Law School in 1971, Bob served as an attorney for the California State University, then as General Counsel of the Coast Community College District and Los Angeles Community College District. He began the development of School and College Legal Services of California in 1984.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Henry is the embodiment of all that is good about the legal profession. He has a profound respect for the law and a sense of mission to use it to insure the best results possible for students. I am proud to acknowledge the work of a man who understands that our nation's children are our future and deserve all that we can do to secure the best education for them.